

# SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY 1954



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# PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

## TO THE 79TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

*Banaras, December 26, 1954*

BY N. SRI RAM

SISTERS AND BROTHERS,

Since the most ancient days in India, Banaras or Kashi, which is its more mystical name, has been regarded by numbers of Indians as the very heart of India, and having the happiness this year of meeting at the headquarters of the Indian Section of our world-wide Society, we meet within the precincts of that heart. Therefore, as I greet you all who have come to this Convention—which I do with all affection—I greet you with a sense of the sanctity of this place, once the home of our beloved late President, Dr. Annie Besant, and the scene of her early labors in India. It is a sanctity which must exist at some inner level, created by the most wonderful thoughts, pure aspirations, and noble aims that have been thought, felt or meditated here.

I ask you to join with me in sending from here a greeting to every Theosophist, wherever he may be on the face of this globe, and every group of Theosophists, whether Lodge or Section. Is it not true that Love conquereth all, whether within us or without us? To a heart radiant with good-will and brotherly feeling, space is as nothing; the differences of latitude and longitude, of dress, lang-

uage and customs are also as nothing. Our first Object being to form a nucleus of Universal Brotherhood, for which we are the constituent material, though perhaps only partially galvanized, let us begin this Convention in a state of goodwill that reaches far and wide, willing to regard anyone anywhere as a Brother, a sharer in the universal life.

In such a frame of heart and mind, free from every element of self-seeking, we can best open ourselves to the Highest we can reach. Many of us will naturally think of Those whom we regard as the Elder Brethren of Humanity, Those in whom the One Life has attained a perfect expression. Following the tradition established by Dr. Besant, I here use her language, slightly adapting it to say what I would like to say to make this moment as vital and beautiful as possible:

May Those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with Their continued help and guidance the Society founded to do Their will; and may we, opening ourselves inwardly to the light of Their guidance, be worthy to transmit that blessing and help to lead the world from Darkness into Light.

Even if our own good-will and aspirations are not potent enough to produce a miraculous transformation, they can be the means whereby stronger forces than ours can operate to carry the message which every Convention should radiate ; the message of Peace, of Unity, and all that is in the underlying Divine Nature of things, a Nature which is hidden within every form and which it is possible for man, because of what he is, to discover and unfold from within himself.

As we hold this International Convention, we may well regard the whole Society as invisibly converging here. That is what the assemblage of flags seems to me to symbolize. But there are other Theosophical gatherings being held at various places : the annual Convention of the New Zealand Section in Auckland ; the annual Convention of the East African Section in Mombasa ; and many support Conventions, among which I shall mention only one, namely that at Adyar. These "support" meetings are being held in order to add their strength to ours. The whole of the Theosophical world is one in spirit, and as the Reports of the various Sections indicate, all are united in the task of putting their shoulders to the wheel—the wheel of progress of the Society and of Theosophy or the eternal Law and Wisdom.

The year that lies behind us has been on the whole one of steady progress, judging first by my own general impression formed in the course of a fairly extensive tour, also the Reports of the different National Societies, and the very large number of letters which I have received from members in all parts of the world. It is always difficult to say how progress in such matters as we are concerned with is to be understood and assessed. If there were a large increase of members somewhere, that would be a certain sign of ad-

vance in that area. An increase in the number of books, pamphlets and lectures put forth or delivered, might also be thought of as an expansion of our work, which should cause satisfaction. But then, along with all such manifestations, should there not be an increasing depth, richness and vitality in what we may call our Theosophy—which is our understanding of Theosophy ? Should there not be a greater one-pointedness, which is an essential inward simplification, in our pursuit of the Wisdom, and a way of life which increasingly reflects that understanding and one-pointedness ?

It has been repeatedly stated by Brother Raja in his Presidential Addresses that the importance of the work of the Society cannot be judged by its numerical strength. There are many causes for ups and downs, whether for a Lodge or for a National Society or for the Society as a whole. There will always be a certain number who come into a Lodge, stay there for a while, and then go out, because they have not found in it what they consciously or, more often, subconsciously hoped to find. People come in sometimes with mixed motives, of which they themselves are insufficiently aware. Nevertheless there have been some—in fact, a remarkable number—who have retained their love of the Wisdom and their enthusiasm for the cause, and endured to the end.

What is the right reason—if I may for the moment constitute myself a judge of its rightness—for pursuing the Wisdom or for continuing to support and labor in the Society ? The one motive which should take precedence of all others, which should burn brightly as a steady flame in our hearts, is the motive of a pure attraction to the Truth, which Truth includes human happiness and progress, and is therefore inseparable from a spirit of true altruism. Why was the Society started in the first

instance? Was it not in order that each one of us who feels moved to do so might discover and give the best of ourselves to a *concerted* endeavor to help humanity to a better life and to a better understanding of the nature of things?

The Society in the content of its functioning is merely the effect of the trends of thought, influences and inclinations brought into manifestation by individual members. It is therefore on the individual member and on the Lodge, as the primary collective unit, that the responsibility rests for maintaining and improving upon the quality which should characterize the particular flow of life for which the Society is intended as a channel. That the material through which this current will have to flow was bound to be of a mixed character must have been known to Those who launched the movement. Ours is the happy task of laboring in our own time in such ways as we can, without desire for the fruit of our action, fruit either in the form of any benefit or enjoyment for ourselves, which would be a negation of the spirit of Theosophy, or even of success, objective and recognized as the result of our labors.

The Society being like a banyan tree, widely spread with many stems, has now this advantage, that though it is a single movement regarded as a whole—a movement implies of course moving all the time at one level or another—it includes very many individual channels through which the life can flow according to the conditions that obtain therein. Sometimes if it cannot flow through one channel, it is able to flow through others.

There are Sections where Theosophy has to make headway with difficulty against the influence of religious or political authorities who will not tolerate any ideas except their own. The General Secretary of one of our Sections writes

that though the Society is permitted to function there, the members have to meet “almost in secrecy” for fear of persecution. Such conditions, she says, are “not conducive to quantity,” though they are “in favor of the quality of the work”. Adversity obviously tests us all, although I think prosperity and easy circumstances are equally a test in another manner. It is the task of a pioneer to break hard ground, as did our predecessors, H.P.B. and others. It is the duty of all of us on every front to put forth our best efforts according to existing conditions and opportunities, irrespective of success.

One of the Adepts more immediately connected with the inception of the Theosophical Society described the undertaking, then being uncertainly tossed about, as a “forlorn hope”. The cause of Truth is ever forlorn not only because of the forces arrayed in favor of various established errors, the habits of thought and prejudices which a true Theosophist has to overcome, but also because of the mixed nature of the material with which progress has to be achieved. The difficulty lies as much in those who are available to act as agents and pass on the Wisdom, namely ourselves, as in anything external to ourselves. Yet the effort commenced in 1875 has succeeded to a remarkable extent; and it can be presently much more of a success even than it has been, if we and each Lodge in its own place will try to make Theosophy synonymous with a perfect mode of life and action, so far as we can achieve it. The perfect mode is not a given mode to which we have all to conform. On the contrary, the Theosophical spirit, which when it is present will create its own forms, is that which is expressed in the freshness of individual realization and experience, and action following naturally therefrom.



There is a little four-page monthly leaflet which is sent out from the National Headquarters of the American Section at "Olcott," to Lodges of the Section, to be distributed by each to its members and the public. The fourth page is left blank, and the Lodge which receives it can print or type its own monthly programme on that page. It is entitled "Discovery," indicating what Theosophy should be to all of us and has as its motto : "Find your Truth and dare to live it." To find this Truth, which is in ourselves, a truth of our own being, one has to be free from all those habits, fears and obsessions, which completely overlay and obliterate it. Theosophy helps us precisely to achieve this freedom. If we can live without fear, with an open mind, and in inward harmony with all that lives, which is Brotherhood, would that not be a way of life, distinct and different from what we see around us, stretching from where we are to new horizons ? Surely some of us know even from such experiences as we might have had that there is the possibility of a new life as well as a new light with a sense of renovation and joy ?

We now have all over the world about 32,400 members and 1,364 Lodges, according to the latest statistics. Unfortunately there are a number of countries where Theosophy is forbidden but even there there are Theosophists who are as much in the movement as any of us, though they can meet only informally and privately, which they do, both with a view to maintain the bond among themselves, and out of devotion to a cause which they feel to be the cause of all humanity. Our good-will, encouragement and sympathetic thought should go out to them all the time.

An event of the year which stands out as a bright feature is the coming back of Lanka, or Ceylon, into the Theosophical map as a National Society or Section.

When I went to Ceylon in September 1946, what remained of the Ceylon Section were only a few members who then constituted themselves into Lanka Lodge in Colombo. At the same time Mr. N. K. Choksy was appointed by Brother Raja as the Presidential Agent for Ceylon. I mentioned last year the good work of Mr. M. Subramaniam in Ceylon, as a result of which there came into existence two more Lodges in Colombo. He devoted two months this year to the completion of that work, which has helped Ceylon to become a well-established Section, with 9 Lodges and about 200 members. The rather rapid growth of the Society in Ceylon and its rise to the status of a Section was assisted greatly by the visit of Mr. Rohit Mehta, the General Secretary for India, and Mrs. Shridevi Mehta, who were there in the months of August and September and visited a number of places along with Mr. M. Subramaniam. Mr. N. K. Choksy, who is also the Society's Legal Adviser, living in Colombo, was elected National President (General Secretary) at a general assembly of the members, with Mr. D. L. F. Pedris as the National Vice-President and Mr. E. L. Kelaart as the National Secretary.

Last year I announced the formation of the Venezuelan Section. Perhaps I might here advert to the first year's report of this Section which shows that it has been able to sustain its progress. It started with 49 members, and during the year 44 more joined. These figures would seem small in comparison with the membership of even a large Lodge in other countries. Yet the progress achieved in such outlying areas is not without significance, considering the conditions in such places, and the difficulties that are met with wherever the Roman Catholic Church is still the predominant influence.

While on the subject of these difficulties, I might allude to the particularly difficult situation amidst which our Italian Brothers and Sisters have to carry on their labors. The Report of the General Secretary of the Italian Section gives some space to this and refers to the activity of the Church in distributing bulletins, printed in provincial towns, warning those concerned against Theosophical doctrines as opposed to the Catholic dogmas. Catholics are not only forbidden by a decree issued in 1919 adherence to the Theosophical Society but even attendance at Theosophical meetings and the reading of Theosophical books and writings. Conditions in Italy are still somewhat unsettled, but the General Secretary points out that the Theosophical movement being not a church nor a sect nor a political party, but a school of thought, is protected by Article 33 of the Italian Constitution. Of course there are many millions of Italians who have thrown off the yoke of the Roman Catholic Church. But these are mostly the Communists, who are wedded to another form of the totalitarian spirit.

An event of considerable importance to the Buddhist world, to which I would like to refer here, is the holding of the sixth great Buddhist Council in Rangoon, which was opened on the full moon day of Vaisakh this year (May 17th) and is to go on till the full moon day of Vaisakh in 1956. This Council is attended, writes Mr. Po Lat, the General Secretary for Burma, by 2,500 Bhikkus (Buddhist monks) from various countries of the East, as well as by a large number of laymen. At the opening of the Council 2,000 copies of Brother Raja's pamphlet, *The Two Dhammas—within us and without us*, and 10,000 copies translated into Burmese were distributed. This was to show them that Theosophy is as much identified with the truths of Buddhism

as with those of any other religion. The Council now being held consists only of representatives of Theravada, the Southern School of Buddhism, and not of the Mahayana or the Northern School, the doctrines of which are so much commented upon in H.P.B.'s works. Mr. Po Lat remarks: "The vision of our President-Founder, Colonel H. S. Olcott, of rallying all Buddhists under his famous fourteen Points still remains a goal which Theosophists have to strive to achieve". The Council has as its object the presentation of the Buddhist Law, that is the canonical teaching, in its purity and arousing enthusiasm for it.

Theosophy aims at the unity of the religions, which is possible if by religion is meant the essential truth of any religious system. Congresses and Parliaments have been held in various places by different organizations during the past years to promote this object. The most notable of them was the Parliament of Religions held in Chicago in 1893. It is, however, a significant fact that it is much easier to bring the religions together than it is ordinarily to bring together the sects within any religion, because the very origin of these sects is usually some doctrinal point with regard to which neither party could know the whole truth or could even be in a position to know with any certainty. In Viet-Nam, as in other Buddhist lands or for that matter, in all other lands, there are a number of sects, and one of the good works undertaken by the Theosophists there has been to organize a Congress of the religious communities at which the subjects discoursed upon, such as *Harmony in Life*, *The Path of Liberation*, *Universal Peace*, were unexceptionable from the standpoint of them all. Everywhere at present, in Christian, Buddhist and other lands, there is a tendency towards a freer and broader understanding



of those matters which are of fundamental significance to living—this, along with various other tendencies not so promising. It is needless to say that it would be well for us as Theosophists to keep in touch with these trends in order both to assist them as possible, and to assess their possible repercussion on Theosophical thought.

In the U.S.A., Mr. Fritz Kunz, assisted by other Theosophists, has been working along another line, correlating the developments of Modern Science with the fundamental ideas of Theosophy and the Theosophical philosophies of the past. He is the guiding spirit of a Foundation for Integrated Education, which has its office in Arundale House, the Headquarters of the New York City Lodge. The integration which is aimed at is that of all knowledge through the study of Man, Nature and Society. Recognizing the work being done in this direction, and with a view to utilizing it for Theosophical work, Mr. James Perkins, the National President of the Society in the United States, instituted last year a "Department of Education" at "Olcott," the work of this Department being "to help Lodges to develop better programmes, to prepare interested members to assist in research, to prepare them to teach, and to present the results of the research to members". He mentions in his Report the excellent work of this Department during the year through the holding of "workshop sessions" at different times for about ten days each time, the loaning of slides and tape-recordings of lectures to Lodges, and correspondence with Lodges as to their programmes and study courses. I mention this activity among various other activities carried on by the American Section in a highly organized and systematic manner, partly to indicate the possibilities along this line, and partly

as illustrating, along with the activities in other Sections, the wide scope assumed by the Society's work in the process of its unfoldment.

The General Secretary for India, Mr. Rohit Mehta, remarks that there are more people coming to Theosophical lectures than has been the case for a very long time. Every hall in India where Dr. Annie Besant has lectured in the course of her numerous tours in this country used to surge with people, but that was long ago. The times have changed in India, as elsewhere, and if in the midst of the present unsettlement and excitements, people are attracted to the deeper issues of life, "this is indeed a very happy sign". Mr. Rohit Mehta's comment on this, that it "places upon existing Theosophical workers a tremendous responsibility," applies to workers in every country, because everywhere there are people who are seeking "something" which they have not found so far. The Indian Section has a membership which is less by about ten per cent than what it was seven years ago in spite of the ceaseless activity of Mr. Rohit Mehta and his co-workers, but this does not indicate any loss of vitality in the movement. Possibly the present figure of about 6,500 members gives a truer approximation to the real strength of the Section as it has been for some years.

Mr. Rohit Mehta draws attention to a feature of the work in India, namely the study camps and training camps held at different centres, notably at Banaras, Bombay and Adyar. These camps have proved to be a very useful instrument for the development of the work in India. The camp and the summer school, which is a variant of it, are being increasingly appreciated not only in India but also in the different Sections in Europe. There was a British Isles Regional

Summer School this year in Derbyshire, which was attended by no less than 272 members, a large number that had to be broken up into different groups for special studies along different lines. There were summer schools at Rendsburg in Germany, Savosa in Switzerland for French-speaking members, Pichl in Austria for the German-speaking members in Austria and Switzerland, and Norefjell in Norway for the Scandinavian region. Mr. van Dissel was present at all these four places, one of which, Norefjell, was also the venue at the same time for a meeting of the Council of the European Federation, of which he is the ever-active and devoted Secretary.

In Australia as well as the United States a considerable amount of useful work has been done for a number of years through radio-broadcasting. In the United States this work of broadcasting has now been organized on a National scale, so that material carefully prepared for the purpose can be put through different stations regularly in different parts of the country.

It is not possible for me to refer to the work of every Section, but at Adyar we read with great interest all that pertains to the progress of the Society *everywhere*. The annual Report from Chile begins thus: "Although our modest work may have little significance for General Headquarters and the rest of the Sections due to the small number of members that go to make up the Section . . ." Our Brother Alarcon, the General Secretary for Chile, underestimates the importance of what takes place in Chile and in other such Sections to the Society as a whole. From the standpoint of life, the whole is in every part, and if that be so, what takes place anywhere in the Theosophical world affects every part of it. I have no doubt that as the years pass, we shall realize more

and more the significance of the unity which underlies the diversity of our work.

While I was in the United States and England I had the opportunity of considering with a number of persons connected with the Theosophical Order of Service, and among others, with our Vice-President, Mr. Sidney Cook, how its work should be organized and along what lines the Order can most usefully function. The two countries in which the T.O.S. is well-established as a separate organization and has proved its usefulness are New Zealand and the U.S.A., although in India and in other countries there are many Theosophical Lodges which include in their programmes some work of a social or humanitarian character. The educational activities of Theosophists in India, which are an outstanding feature of their public work and are carried on vigorously at Adyar and Banaras, among other places, are essentially an application of Theosophy to the vital subject of Education in line with all other efforts to make Theosophy practical. Many a Lodge, following Brother Raja's suggestion, gives some time to the work of the United Nations, even if only to the extent of keeping its members informed as to the main activities of the U.N.O. or sending a representative to speak at local meetings held in support of that body. The work of translating Theosophical works into Braille and distributing them is as much part of Theosophical publications and propaganda as it is work of a philanthropic nature intended to help a section of the population which is in need of special help. Obviously every Theosophist has the duty of helping in every way possible his fellow-beings, beginning with those with whom he comes into contact. But in addition to this, many naturally join and work in public organizations which already exist for such purposes

as the protection of animals or the care of refugees or homeless children.

While it seems to me advisable not to duplicate organizations unnecessarily, and good to co-operate with others so that there is the maximum of support for the causes in which we are interested, there may be objects for which the T.O.S. might organize activities under its own auspices at least in certain places. There may be scope for a T.O.S. activity parallel to and in friendly relations with other activities. The T.O.S. can be also a medium for workers along different lines to share with one another their interests, experiences, ideas and problems—somewhat like a Social Service Bureau but approaching every problem from a deeply Theosophical point of view.

There was general agreement among those with whom I discussed the matter not only on the above points but also on the nature of the organization to be maintained for the purpose. So far it has been of the simplest nature possible. There is a Chief Brother who directs in each country where the T.O.S. exists, appointed by the President of the International Theosophical Society. The latter has also had the power of saying what kind of activities might be taken up by the T.O.S. and what not. In addition to this, it seems to me that it might be useful to have for each country or area a Committee to advise and assist the Chief Brother as required. Such a Committee would be of help also to the International President, and I think it should include the General Secretary or the National President for the time being.

The T.O.S., in every country where it has been active, has always given a prominent place to the protection of animals. Srimati Rukmini Devi, as a member of the Rajya Sabha (the upper House of the Indian Parliament), had introduced a bill last year for the protection

of animals in India. The bill was a comprehensive measure seeking to prohibit every form of cruelty to animals, but it was felt by the Government that from a practical standpoint they had to obtain complete information from different quarters in order to make the Act suit existing circumstances and put it in an enforceable shape. When the bill came up for discussion in that House, the Government of India undertook to appoint a Committee to enquire into all aspects of the treatment of animals in India. Srimati Rukmini Devi herself will be on the Committee and thus in a position to do all that she can to help India to become again, as it once was, a land of Ahimsa (harmlessness), not only as a matter of lip-sentiment but also in visible practice.

Among other activities of a philanthropic nature taken up by Theosophists, one that calls for notice is a scheme promoted by Madame A. de Berg of Geneva among Theosophists to give the necessary help to a refugee camp at Kolokynthou near Athens, this as part of a bigger scheme to assist some 1,30,000 homeless, State-less individuals congregated in 200 camps scattered throughout Europe where they are now barely maintained. Such a big objective can be achieved only very gradually. Madame de Berg has been trying to secure the "adoption" of the Kolokynthou camp by the Sections in Europe and other Theosophists.

I referred to the educational work of Theosophists in India. An important development in the work carried on at the headquarters of the Indian Section is the starting of a Girls' College, named Vasanta Kanya Mahavidyalaya, in the place of the Vasanta Girls' School and College which for many years was being conducted in a portion of the Indian Section buildings. In July last the Vasanta School and College was moved

to Rajghat by the Trust known formerly as the Rishi Valley Trust, but since named the Foundation for New Education. The new College is in the hands of an incorporated body named the Besant Educational Fellowship and has at present about 320 girls.

On the 16th of July the Olcott School at Adyar celebrated the 60th anniversary of the founding of the School by Colonel H. S. Olcott. The Olcott School is an institution for which Theosophists receive much credit from the public in India. Unfortunately the School is situated in premises which are hardly sufficient even for the accommodation of the classes. The boys and girls, who now number about 700, having grown year by year, have little space in which to move about nor any playground except some adjacent ground on the estate of the Society which we allow them to use.

I was on tour out of India for about eight months this year, and was accompanied on the trip by Srimati Bhagirathi Sri Ram and my Secretary, Miss Elithe Nisewanger. We were for four and a half months in North America, and for three months in Europe. During this period I have been to various places in the eastern, southern, west coast and northern parts of the United States. In several areas the local Federations had arranged conferences at which I could meet members, including the active workers in the Federation area. We were present at "Olcott" in July and August for the three weeks' annual sessions, which included as usual the Workers' Training Conference, the annual Convention and the annual Summer School. I had the pleasure of participating in the activities of the different groups present at these functions. My itinerary in North America included also Toronto, the Headquarters of the Canadian

Section, Vancouver and Victoria in Western Canada, Havana in Cuba, and Mexico City. In Europe we attended the British Isles Regional Summer School in Derbyshire, held towards the end of August, and later the Summer School of the German Section at Rendsburg, near Hamburg. Besides London the places visited in the European Sections were Cardiff, Dublin, Belfast, Paris, Huizen, The Hague, Brussels, Geneva, Locarno, Milan, Florence and Rome. There were of course meetings and lectures at every place. The Convention of the Italian Section was held this year in Florence so as to coincide with our visit.

In India during this year I was able to visit a few places, among which I might mention Guntur, where I was invited to preside over the Andhra Circars Federation Conference, Bombay, Broach, Surat and Bangalore. In Bombay on our way to Europe, we had the pleasure of taking part in the Diamond Jubilee of the landing of the Founders in India, which was celebrated in the Blavatsky Lodge premises on February 11th.

It is not possible for me to mention at length the tours of all our good workers. I can only refer to some. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson toured the English Section for ten weeks in the spring and early summer. The Report of the English Section states that the tour was highly successful, judging by the attendance at the public lectures and the numbers who turned up at enquirers' meetings following them. Mr. John Coats carried out a fairly extensive tour in the Scandinavian countries, speaking to members as well as to the public. Among those who have been lecturing in a number of Sections besides their own, I might mention Mr. and Mrs. E. Norman Pearson, who have been in a number of places in Western Canada, as well as numerous



areas in the United States. Mrs. Mary Elmore, who is now on a visit to Adyar, has done good work in various places in West, South and East Africa. It is rarely that Greece receives a visit from Theosophical workers in other countries, and the Report of the Greek General Secretary mentions with particular pleasure the visit of Mr. J. E. van Dissel to Greece on his way back from the last International Convention at Adyar.

I might mention here that when I was in Bombay on my way back from Europe, I met Srimati Rukmini Devi, who was then leaving for Montevideo, Uruguay, as a member of the Indian Delegation to the UNESCO conference held in that place during November. Srimati Rukmini Devi has been able to visit some Lodges in that part of South America.

There has been a considerable re-organization of the work in the Adyar Library by the Director, Mr. Alain Danielou. During the year I appointed Mr. Raymond Burnier to help in this re-organization. The first number of the Library Bulletin edited by Mr. Danielou came out in a new format, with a somewhat changed appearance and bigger in size. It has been sent to numerous institutions in various countries, where it has received very high praise. Mr. Danielou has a number of ideas for the development of the research work of the Library, for which he needs money. As the Library had hardly room in its own wing for keeping its books and manuscripts, not to speak of spreading them out for convenient reference and use, I have allowed it temporarily to use the wings adjoining the Headquarters Hall, shifting the Museum and the Swaminatha Iyer Tamil Library to other places near the Headquarters building. The need for a separate building designed for the Library's purposes remains as great and urgent as

ever before. We have some money to construct the building but not enough. If those who have the money and are interested in the Library's work will come forward to hasten this development, they will have the satisfaction of contributing to a branch of the work which will bear excellent results.

The proposal to lease to the Besant Centenary Trust for 15 years the grounds and buildings in Damodar Gardens at Adyar now occupied by the institutions of that Trust, having been approved by the necessary majority of the General Council, the lease was registered on March 25. I understand from Srimati Rukmini Devi that the India Government has given a substantial grant to the Besant Theosophical School for the erection of a building for its use, though the grant may not be quite sufficient to cover all the accommodation desired and planned. The building will of course be erected on the grounds (about 80 acres) near Tiruvanmiyur, which belong to the Trust for the use of its institutions.

The Adyar Day collections amounted this year to Rs. 30,174, of which the major portion—Rs. 26,639—came as usual from members in the U.S.A. It is their unfailing generosity which enables us at Adyar year after year to maintain the help given to a number of activities and tide over the deficit in the Society's budget which is not always covered by other donations available for the purpose. The interest from the A.B.C. Fund is increasing year by year but slowly, as the Fund itself amounts at present only to about two-fifths of the total aimed at for it. There has been a good response to the appeal on behalf of the Raja Commemorative Fund. But it is obvious that we will have to go on asking for donations for all these purposes. Although the economic conditions in India

are officially declared to be well under control, the cost of labor as well as various materials needed at Adyar for different purposes has gone up so much during the last seven or eight years that the process of re-adjustment in our finances to the new conditions cannot be said to be over or complete.

There has been no change in the responsible heads of the different departments at Adyar. I will merely mention their names and thank them all sincerely for their help and co-operation : T. S. Archives, Miss Katherine A. Beechey ; Bhojanasala, Mr. N. R. Subramanyam ; Dispensary, Dr. E. Sundaresan and Mr. S. Krishnamurti ; Engineering Department, Mr. M. D. Subramaniam ; Gardens, Mr. K. Neelakantan and Mr. V. R. Manickam ; Furniture and Cleaning, Mr. Narainji Kevat ; Adyar Library, Mr. Alain Danielou and Mrs. Radha Burnier ; Leadbeater Chambers, Miss Florence Pulsford ; Laundry, Mr. M. V. Gopalakrishnan ; Sanitation, Madame P. Cazin ; Theosophical Publishing House and Watch and Ward, Mr. K. S. Krishnamurti and Mr. K. Ramanathan, Assistant Manager of the Theosophical Publishing House ; Vasanta Press, Mr. D. V. Syamala Rau and Mr. T. G. Suryanarayanan.

The Vice-President, Mr. Sidney A. Cook, has been in the United States during the year, where I had the pleasure of meeting him and Mrs. Jocelyn Cook at "Olcott" as well as elsewhere in the course of my tour. He presided over the Summer School sessions and was present at the Workers' Conference as well as the Annual Convention of the American Section. His presence at these sessions and his participation in them were highly appreciated by all present.

I want to say here how grateful I am to Miss Emma Hunt, the Recording Sec-

retary, and to Miss Ann Kerr, the Assistant Recording Secretary, who with the assistance of Mr. H. B. F. Moorhead, Honorary Treasurer, have carried on the administration during my travels. During my absence from Adyar I have been kept in continuous touch with all that has taken place at Adyar and every question that needed my attention. Even when I am at Adyar their work is so organized and carried out as to make my intervention superfluous, except as to any policies involved. I must also record my grateful thanks to Mrs. D. R. Dinshaw for taking upon herself this year practically the entire burden of editing THE THEOSOPHIST. She has been helped in this work by Miss Emma Hunt.

The School of the Wisdom continues its good work, and it opened its session this year on October 4th, with eighteen students and two others who were registered as "observers," as they did not want to take a full part in its work. The countries represented are the United States, England, India, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Viet-Nam, Switzerland, Pakistan and Ceylon. The studies are being directed again this year by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, who was fortunately available for the post, amidst the touring activities with which he is so much occupied.

I am this year proposing Mr. Geoffrey Hodson to receive the Subba Row Medal for his contributions to Theosophy, and I feel sure that the General Council will heartily endorse the proposal.

I would like to refer here to two small additions to objects of interest at Adyar. In 1937 Dr. Arundale outlined a plan to make a collection at Adyar of objects from each of the National Sections, which are either works of art or of some national significance as representing the spirit of the nation. The War interfered

with the carrying out of this scheme, but this past year we received from the United States a statue, executed by Mr. Richmond Barthe of New York, according to a drawing by Mr. James S. Perkins, representing Abraham Lincoln freeing the slaves. It is to be hoped that some day we shall see the realization of Dr. Arundale's dream. Another small statue, equally interesting, is one of Pallas Athene, acquired by Brother Raja in Pisa, Italy, and kept by him at the London Centre, 33 Ovington Square. We have chosen a place for it near the entrance to the main lecture-room of the School of the Wisdom in Olcott Gardens, where it will be an inspiration to all who come to that place.

A number of stalwart workers of long standing and faithful to the cause have passed away during the year, in the persons of Mr. Armas Rankka in Finland ; Mr. Eric Cronvall in Sweden ; Mrs. Hilda Powell in England ; Mr. J. J. van Ginkel of South Africa ; Miss Gertrude Watkin and Mr. T. G. Queree in New Zealand ; Baroness van Isselmuden in Holland ; and in India Mr. P. T. Pavri, Mr. C. R. Parthasarathy Iyengar, Miss Helen Veale, Mrs. Margaret Cousins, and Mr. S. Lingayya. There may be others who have also passed away, but whose names have not yet come to my notice.

Mr. Rankka was for seventeen years the General Secretary for Finland and his passing is a serious loss to the movement in the Finnish Section, which I may point out incidentally is one of the strongest in the Society, considering the proportion of its numerical strength, about 700 members, to the population of the country. Mr. Cronvall was for some time General Secretary in Sweden, and he paid a brief visit to Adyar during the Convention of 1952. Miss Helen Veale and Mrs. Margaret Cousins were

both of that devoted band who came to India many years ago, attracted by Dr. Besant and her work, and remained here to the end. Miss Watkin was for some years Librarian in the Adyar Library, and Baroness van Isselmuden was for a number of years at Adyar, as sub-editor of *THE THEOSOPHIST* assisting Dr. Besant. Mr. Pavri is the author of *Theosophy Explained* and *Theosophy for Youth*, two books covering the field of Theosophical knowledge in the form of questions and answers, which have earned a wide popularity, especially for purposes of study in Lodges. One other person of very long standing in the Society whom I should mention here is Mrs. Hirendranath Datta, who had the same unswerving devotion to the Society and its work as her husband, the former Vice-President of the Society.

As the years pass we are bound to witness the passing of more of such well-loved and respected brethren, thus adding to the length of the list which Dr. Arundale called the Roll of Honor. But we may hope that there will arise new workers, both out of the ranks of the Young Theosophists and from among others who may come into the movement in their later years.

It is customary to say that it is in those who are young that there is the hope of the future. But it has been repeatedly the experience that the young of any particular time soon become like their elders, even if that becoming takes sometimes a direction seemingly different. The influences of existing conditions and the reactions to which they give rise in us almost without our knowing it are too much for most of us. But then, there can be some even among the so-called elders who can be youth in spirit, retaining or even gaining that freshness and purity which belong to the period of youth. The young who come under



their care can then grow unsullied reflecting that purity in the intelligence of their aims and the methods they use when they come to maturity. If there are such elders and such young people

among Theosophists, the Society will be open to the forces of a life-giving renewal, and will be ready for the time to which H.P.B. looked forward at the end of a century of its work.

N. SRI RAM

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## THE TREASURER'S REPORT

The Society's Income and Expense Account for the fiscal year ended 30th September, 1954 closed with a surplus of Rs. 3,143/- as summarized below.

			<i>Budget</i>	<i>Actuals</i>
			Rs.	Rs.
Expense (including Departments)	..	..	4,33,800	4,88,643
Income	..	..	3,93,830	4,42,873
			<hr/>	<hr/>
Deficit	..	..	39,970	45,770
Less Donations received (after allocations to funds and accounts)	..	..		48,913
				<hr/>
Surplus to Capital Account	..	..		3,143
				<hr/>

The Adyar Day Collection inclusive of a sum of Rs. 26,639-15-9 contributed by members in the U. S. A. and the balance carried forward from the previous year amounted to Rs. 30,174-4-9. Other general donations received during the year totalled Rs. 30,913-13-3. The President has made the following allocations :

				Rs.	A.	P.
Olcott Harijan Free Schools	..	..	..	1,000	0	0
Adyar Library	..	..	..	2,000	0	0
Besant Theosophical School	..	..	..	1,000	0	0
Faithful Service Fund	..	..	..	5,000	0	0
President's Discretionary Fund	..	..	..	1,000	0	0
Welfare Fund	..	..	..	2,000	0	0
Sum made available to the T.S.	..	..	..	48,913	13	3
				<hr/>		
				60,913	13	3
Retained for further allocation	..	..	..	174	4	9
				<hr/>		
				61,088	2	0
				<hr/>		

*Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund.*—A sum of Rs. 55,039/- has been received for this fund during the year and the balance at credit as on 30-9-1954 stood at Rs. 8,12,467-15-10. With this amount we have reached more than 1/3 of the tar-

get figure of Rs. 20,00,000-0-0 and we offer our grateful thanks to all who have contributed to this fund.

*Faithful Service Fund.*—At the commencement of the year this fund had a credit balance of Rs. 23,350-4-8 but during

the twelve months a sum of Rs. 8,753-11-0 has been disbursed. An amount of Rs. 5,000/- was allocated to this Fund from the Adyar Day Collection and the balance now remains at Rs. 22,459-7-2.

*Investments.*—The proceeds of the legacy bequeathed by the late Mrs. K. E. Tibbits amounted to Rs. 2,72,968-13-4 and as per the terms of the will this has been equally shared by the Indian Section Library and the Adyar Library maintained by the T.S. The proceeds include various sterling and dollar securities and the Adyar balance remaining at cost price is Rs. 1,33,051-7-7 (£10,082-16-2). This amount is included in the Balance Sheet under the head Investments.

A sum of Rs. 15,000/- was donated in G. P. Notes by Mr. Khurshed S. Dabu and the President has allotted Rs. 12,000/- for the A.B.C. Fund and Rs. 3,000/- for Publicity Account.

We have also invested in  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  National Plan Bonds for the Face Value of Rs. 3,000/.

*Casuarina Development.*—The income from casuarinas was only Rs. 1,720/- as against a budgeted amount of Rs. 10,000/. The cutting programme was started rather late in the year and, owing to a general fall in prices of cut-wood, it has not been easy to dispose of such firewood as has been felled. Further felling will have to proceed slowly depending on the market demand. This has contributed to the increase in the deficit over and above the budgeted estimate.

*Bhojanasala.*—There were exceptionally few residents and as it is necessary to maintain a skeleton staff this has resulted in an increased deficit of Rs. 1,080-14-3. This is slightly in excess of the budget estimate.

*Leadbeater Chambers.*—The department's account under careful management closed with a deficit of Rs. 1,618-5-7 as against an anticipated deficit of Rs. 2,500/.

*Laundry.*—Owing to diminished income due to the small number of residents and the increased cost of labor, etc., this department shows a deficit of Rs. 1,435-1-0.

*Engineering Department.*—A deficit of Rs. 1,991-10-3 has been incurred. This is chiefly due to increased cost of maintenance and slight diminution in revenue under job works; these were comparatively less than the previous year.

*Garden Department.*—This department shows a deficit of Rs. 12,357-14-9 as against an anticipated deficit of Rs. 7,500/-. This is mainly due to fall of revenue in Mangoes and Sapotas and also maintenance of Ornamental Gardens.

*Vasanta Press.*—The year closed with a surplus of Rs. 2,546-4-5 after reserving for purchase of type and machinery and a contribution to Employees' Gratuities Fund.

*Watch and Ward and Sanitation.*—These departments have kept within budget levels.

*Summary.*—It will be seen that there has been a regular and increasing cost for maintenance of staff, buildings and grounds, etc., which is reflected in a similar increase in the budget deficit. The repair and modernization of the many buildings constructed during an age when costs of repairs and labor were relatively very low will be a heavy and increasing burden.

The regular T.S. income is derived mainly from rent of buildings, fees and dues and interest on securities which should remain fixed, or from income from garden crops whose prices fluctuate depending on supply and demand and also on seasonal factors. In the year under consideration the budgeted deficit has been considerably enhanced over the amount anticipated due to a decrease in the fees and dues (Rs. 3,000/-), reduced casuarina firewood sales (Rs. 8,000/-) and lower prices for garden produce (Rs. 5,000/-).

The A.B.C. Fund was formed with a view to providing an alternative source of income to balance these annual deficits. The need to press on towards the target set at Rs. 20,00,000/- for this fund is clearly demonstrated if the Estate of the International Headquarters at Adyar is to be maintained in its present condition of

beauty and peace. It is hoped that in the coming years there will be a regular and continued response to this Fund towards which members have already contributed so generously since its inception.

H. B. F. MOORHEAD,  
*Hony. Treasurer.*



## THE REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## THE T. S. INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT

Budget Allot- ment	EXPENSE						Rs.		A. P.	
Rs.										
32,000	To Establishment—Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	...	30,605	7	0	
30,000	„ Repairs and Renewals...	...	...	...	...	...	605	7	0	
	Less appropriation from War-deferred Maintenance Reserve									
										30,000 0 0
5,000	„ Light and Water	...	...	...	...	...				4,463 13 0
7,000	„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...				6,779 14 1
4,000	„ Postages, Telegrams and Telephone	...	...	...	...	...				2,736 1 9
4,500	„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	...				3,875 4 6
14,000	„ Taxes...	...	...	...	...	...				14,257 0 8
800	„ Publications to General Secretaries...	...	...	...	...	...				669 8 0
500	„ Museum and Archives...	...	...	...	...	...				214 15 6
2,000	„ Convention	...	...	...	...	...				5,611 2 3
	„ Departmental Results :									
		Expense			Income			Net		
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
42,550	Garden	41,348	12	0	28,990	13	3	—12,357	14	9
13,250	Watch and Ward	11,729	8	3				—11,729	8	3
4,800	Sanitation	4,718	0	6	1,637	1	6	—3,080	15	0
3,500	Dispensary	4,848	6	0	950	5	6	—3,898	0	6
2,500	Leadbeater Chambers	14,293	12	10	12,675	7	3	—1,618	5	7
900	Laundry	6,789	5	0	5,354	4	0	—1,435	1	0
650	Bhojanasala	11,998	14	0	10,917	15	9	—1,080	14	3
	Engineering Department	1,11,223	2	0	1,09,231	7	9	—1,991	10	3
	Vasanta Press	1,48,794	14	7	1,51,341	3	0	+ 2,546	4	5
		3,55,744	11	2	3,21,098	10	0	—34,646	1	2
										34,646 1 2
										1,33,158 7 11
	„ Appropriations :									
5,000	To Adyar Library	...	...	...				5,000	0	0
5,000	„ The School of the Wisdom	...	...	...				5,000	0	0
6,600	„ President's Travelling Fund	...	...	...				6,600	0	0
										16,600 0 0
17,500	„ Depreciation :									
	On Immovable Property @ 2%	...	...	...				12,654	11	6
	„ Movable Property	...	...	...				4,826	14	4
	„ “Gulistan” @ 2%	...	...	...				305	0	0
										17,786 9 10
	„ Excess of Income over Expense carried to Capital a/c									3,143 5 2
										1,70,688 6 11

ADYAR

18th December 1954

For The Theosophical Society.  
H. B. F. MOORHEAD,  
Hony. Treasurer.

## 19

[illegible]

*Chartered Accountants.*



## BALANCE SHEET OF THE THEOSOPHICAL

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES											
Capital						Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance at Oct. 1, 1953	...	...	...	...	...	9,55,940	2	3			
Less Adyar Library (see below)	...	...	...	...	...	1,66,632	10	5			
						7,89,307	7	10			
Add Excess of Income over Expense	...	...	...	...	...	3,143	5	2			
						7,92,450	13	0			
Adyar Library (see separate Account)	...	...	...	...	...	1,79,808	1	7	9,72,258	14	7
<b>Other Departments :</b>											
Bhojanasala	...	...	...	...	...	1,676	1	3			
Engineering Department	...	...	...	...	...	84,861	11	6			
Garden Department	...	...	...	...	...	59,318	14	0			
Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	1,497	8	9			
Leadbeater Chambers	...	...	...	...	...	2,563	4	6			
Vasanta Press	...	...	...	...	...	38,085	6	4			
						1,88,002	14	4			
<b>Funds (see notes below)</b>											
<b>Of the Society Interest Bearing :</b>											
Adyar Library Endowment Fund	(a)	...	...	...	...	1,65,544	8	2			
Adyar Library Building Fund	(b)	...	...	...	...	1,17,170	9	9			
Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund	(c)	...	...	...	...	8,12,467	15	10			
Miscellaneous Funds	(a)	...	...	...	...	64,754	0	9			
do. do.	(d)	...	...	...	...	13,707	12	0			
						11,73,644	14	6			
<b>Of the Society Non-Interest Bearing :</b>											
President's Travelling Fund	...	...	...	...	...	5,644	8	11			
Pensions & Gratuities Fund	...	...	...	...	...	15,443	15	5			
						11,94,733	6	10			
<b>Of Others Interest Bearing :</b>											
Sri Panda Baijnath Propaganda	...	...	...	...	...						
Endowment Fund	...	...	...	...	...	34,135	5	5			
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	82,815	6	8			
Non-Interest Bearing	...	...	...	...	...	31,564	11	8	1,48,515	7	9
									13,43,248	14	7
<b>Sundry Deposits</b>									81,488	7	10
<b>Sundry Creditors</b>									4,802	0	9
<b>Adyar Library :</b>											
Miscellaneous Funds	...	...	...	...	...	20,066	12	1			
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...	...	...	2,119	0	3			
Gratuities Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	6,817	7	10	29,003	4	2
<b>Reserves :</b>											
War-deferred Maintenance Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	17,818	2	3			
Electrical Line...	...	...	...	...	...	6,000	0	0			
Meter and Water Line Renewal	...	...	...	...	...	4,000	0	0			
Supplemental Welfare	...	...	...	...	...	1,757	4	6			
Vasanta Press Contingencies Reserve	...	...	...	...	...	3,000	0	0			
Type and Machinery	...	...	...	...	...	41,500	0	0			
Adyar Day Unallocated	...	...	...	...	...	174	4	9			
Water Tank	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	0	0			
Special Purposes Fund	...	...	...	...	...	15,035	11	6	91,285	7	0
<b>Note.—(a) Capital and Interest available for specific purposes.</b>											
<b>(b) Interest available for general purposes.</b>											
<b>(c) Interest only available for general purposes.</b>											
<b>(d) Interest only available for specific purposes.</b>											
									25,22,087	0	11

SOCIETY, ADYAR, AS ON 30TH SEPTEMBER 1954

PROPERTY AND ASSETS											
						Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<b>Immovable Property :</b>											
Balance at Oct. 1, 1953											
Lands at Adyar ... ..						1,93,857	13	0			
Buildings " ... ..						6,23,550	8	9			
<i>Add Improvements during the year...</i>									8,17,408	5	9
									11,952	12	0
									8,29,361	1	9
<i>Less Sales ... ..</i>									2,768	3	0
									8,26,592	14	9
<i>Less Depreciation Reserve ... ..</i>									2,55,678	4	0
Land in Sindh ... ..											
"Gulistan," Kotagiri : ... ..											
Balance at Oct. 1, 1953 ... ..						15,260	6	9			
<i>Less Depreciation Reserve ... ..</i>						1,218	4	6			
										5,70,914	10 9
										10,000	0 0
										14,042	2 3
<b>Movable Properties, Adyar :</b>											
Balance at Oct. 1, 1953 ... ..						59,308	7	8			
<i>Add Additions during the year ... ..</i>						2,153	15	6			
									61,462	7	2
<i>Less Sales ... ..</i>									437	8	0
									61,024	15	2
<i>Less Depreciation Reserve ... ..</i>									37,614	8	0
										23,410	7 2
<b>Investments at Cost :</b>											
Government of India Loan 2½% to 4½% F. V. 7,73,700 ... ..						7,66,199	4	9			
Madras State Govt. Loan and debentures 2½% to 4% F. V. 1,36,400 ... ..						1,36,572	8	0			
United Kingdom Loan, etc. ... ..						3,10,097	11	8			
Surrender Value of Life Policy ... ..						16,200	0	0			
Miscellaneous ... ..						8,943	4	3			
										12,38,012	12 8
Interest accrued on Investments ... ..										17,611	5 5
Fees and Dues Outstanding ... ..										1,751	5 6
Sundry Debtors ... ..						45,537	5	6			
<i>Less Rentals billed in Advance ... ..</i>						2,176	0	0			
										43,361	5 6
<b>Departmental Assets :</b>											
Electrical Installation, less Depreciation ... ..						35,226	0	0			
Tools, Implements, Utensils and Equipment ... ..						15,528	15	0			
Printing Machinery ... ..						12,793	0	0			
Supplies on hand ... ..						78,603	7	6			
Accounts Recoverable and Advances ... ..						62,558	2	6			
Cash on hand ... ..						1,045	0	0			
Advance Rentals ... ..						191	0	0			
Standing Crops ... ..						56,006	14	0			
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium ... ..						1,348	11	0			
Works in Progress ... ..						12,313	9	0			
									2,75,614	11	0
<b>Adyar Library:</b>											
Books and Manuscripts ... ..						1,48,644	2	0			
Furniture, less Depreciation ... ..						23,250	5	6			
Stock of Publications ... ..						31,196	6	6			
Miscellaneous ... ..						2,186	0	4			
									2,05,276	14	4
										4,80,891	9 4
<b>Cash :</b>											
Fixed Deposit ... ..						1,657	0	3			
In Madras Banks on Current Account ... ..						70,805	14	7			
In London Bank do. ... ..						39,525	11	9			
On hand ... ..						10,102	11	9		1,22,091	6 4
										25,22,087	0 11

Examined and found correct,  
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

# FEES AND DUES RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1954

										Rs.	A. P.
The Theosophical Society in	U.S.A.	...	\$1985.79	1954	...	...	...	...	...	9,366	3 0
"	England	...	£236-0-6	1953-54	...	...	...	...	...	3,133	9 10
"	India	...	...	1952-53	...	...	...	...	...	1,188	11 0
"	Australia	...	£44-9-9	1953	...	...	...	...	...	591	0 0
"	New Zealand	...	£53-8-6	...	...	...	...	...	...	709	12 9
"	Norway	...	£7-18-6	1952-53	...	...	...	...	...	103	15 0
"	Wales	...	£12-14-8	1953	...	...	...	...	...	169	3 0
"	Colombia	...	\$50.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	234	5 9
"	Canada	...	\$89.88	...	...	...	...	...	...	439	11 0
"	Scotland	...	£18-11-6	...	...	...	...	...	...	246	12 9
"	Mexico	...	\$60.00	1953	...	...	...	...	...	280	2 0
"	Sweden	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	266	2 0
"	N. Ireland	...	£2-8-0	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	14 0
"	Holland	...	£208-10-9	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,770	14 0
"	Greece	...	£11-0-0	1953	...	...	...	...	...	146	0 6
"	Portugal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	183	11 3
"	Ireland	...	£1-8-10	1953-54	...	...	...	...	...	19	0 3
"	Chile	...	\$16.24	...	...	...	...	...	...	74	0 0
"	Br. E. Africa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	0 0
"	Puerto Rico	...	£4-3-8	...	...	...	...	...	...	55	6 0
"	Belgium	...	£10-18-5	...	...	...	...	...	...	145	2 0
"	Yugoslavia	...	\$50.00	...	...	...	...	...	...	235	5 6
"	Austria	...	£19-17-6	...	...	...	...	...	...	264	1 0
"	Burma	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	310	0 0
"	Switzerland	...	£19-10-6	...	...	...	...	...	...	259	7 0
"	Finland	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	341	0 0
"	Italy	...	£50-11-0	...	...	...	...	...	...	671	11 0
"	S. Africa	...	£33-5-9	1953	...	...	...	...	...	442	0 3
"	Uruguay	...	\$21.75	...	...	...	...	...	...	102	6 0
"	Denmark	...	...	1953	...	...	...	...	...	1,152	14 6
"	Germany	...	£39-19-0	...	...	...	...	...	...	530	13 0
"	Central America	...	\$17.00	1953	...	...	...	...	...	78	10 6
"	Venezuela	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	165	0 0
Canadian Federation T.S.	...	...	£28-4-6	1953-54	...	...	...	...	...	374	2 6
Non-Sectionalized Lodges, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	504	5 4
Total										25,611	4 8

## FAITHFUL SERVICE FUND

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1954

DISBURSEMENTS				RECEIPTS					
		Rs.	A.	P.			Rs.	A.	P.
To Miss E. M. Amery @ Rs. 200/- p.m.	...	2,400	0	0	By Opening Balance	...	23,350	4	8
„ Miss H. S. Kemp @ Rs. 60/- p.m.	...	720	0	0	„ Donations, etc.	...	2,180	15	3
„ Miss G. Watkin @ Rs. 218/- p.m. for 4 months	...	872	0	0	„ Rent	...	240	0	0
„ Miss Helen Veale @ Rs. 100/- p.m. for 9 months	...	900	0	0	„ Adyar Day Allocation	...	5,000	0	0
„ Madame P. Cazin @ Rs. 80/- p.m.	...	960	0	0	„ Interest	...	441	14	3
„ Mr. C. S. Trilokekar @ Rs. 50/- p.m.	...	600	0	0					
„ Mr. Manjeri S. Rama Iyer @ Rs. 20/- p.m.	...	240	0	0					
„ Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Ransom	...	1,391	7	0					
„ Contributions to the Clara Codd Pension Fund	...	658	4	0					
„ Money Order and Bank Com- missions	...	12	0	0					
„ Balance carried over	...	22,459	7	2					
		31,213	2	2			31,213	2	2

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT'S  
TRAVELLING FUND

## RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1954

					Rs.	A.	P.
The T.S. in Australia A.£51-0-0	....	...	....	...	510	9	6
The T.S. in England £50-0-0	....	....	...	...	662	1	9
The T.S. in Scotland £1-0-0	....	...	....	...	13	4	0
Anonymous A.£50-0-0	....	....	....	...	500	0	0
Mrs. N. W. Gray, U.S.A.	....	....	....	...	1,000	0	0
Mr. C. R. Parthasarathy Iyengar, Chittor	....	....	....	...	100	0	0
Mrs. Gulnar Parekh, Bombay	....	....	....	...	50	0	0
Mr. S. H. Vaswani, Adyar	....	..	....	...	1	0	0
					2,836	15	3

## THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1954-55

EXPENSE	Budget for 1953-'54	Actuals for 1953-'54	Budget for 1954-'55	INCOME	Budget for 1953-'54	Actuals for 1953-'54	Budget for 1954-'55
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages ...	32,000	29,905	31,000	Rent ...	54,000	53,465	53,000
Repairs and Renewals ...	30,000	30,000	30,000	Fees and Dues ...	28,600	25,611	24,000
Garden Expenses ...	42,550	41,349	43,340	Conservancy Charges ...	1,300	1,637	1,400
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	6,780	7,000	Garden Income ...	33,050	28,991	33,350
Light and Water ...	5,000	4,464	4,500	Casuarina ...	10,000	1,721	2,000
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone ...	4,000	2,736	3,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Printing and Stationery ...	4,500	3,875	4,000	Interest (Gross) ...	34,000	41,607	38,000
Publications to General Secretaries ...	800	669	800	Special Departments:			
Sanitation Expenses ...	4,800	4,718	4,900	Engineering De- partment ...	94,750	1,09,231	1,06,900
Taxes ...	14,000	14,257	14,500	Vasanta Press ...	1,23,000	1,31,341	1,18,800
Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	8,000	7,760	9,000	Laundry ...	6,000	5,354	5,500
Convention ...	2,000	5,611	2,000	Donations to cover deficit ...	39,970	48,914	50,660
Watch and Ward ...	13,250	11,729	13,000				
<b>Contributions:</b>							
Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Dispensary ...	3,500	3,898	3,500				
President's Travelling Fund ...	6,600	6,600	6,600				
Museum and Archives ..	500	215	500				
The School of the Wisdom ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
<b>Donations to various Funds and Accounts ...</b>	...	...	...				
Bhojanasala ...	650	1,081	1,000				
Leadbeater Chambers ...	2,500	1,618	2,000				
Depreciation ...	17,500	17,787	17,500				
<b>Special Departments:</b>							
Engineering Department.	94,750	1,11,223	1,06,900				
Vasanta Press ...	1,23,000	1,48,795	1,18,800				
Laundry ...	6,900	6,789	6,900				
Surplus ...		3,143					
	4,33,800	4,75,002	4,40,740		4,33,800	4,75,002	4,40,740

For The Theosophical Society,  
H. B. F. MOORHEAD,  
Hony. Treasurer.



## THE ADYAR LIBRARY

## PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-1954

	Rs.	A.	P.		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
To Stock on hand, 1-10-'53 ...	33,100	14	0	By Sales including sub-						
„ Cost of Publications ...	10,734	10	9	scription to <i>Brahma</i>						
				<i>Vidya</i> ...				5,715	6	0
				„ Stock on hand ...	57,689	4	6			
				Less write down ...	26,492	14	0			
								31,196	6	6
				„ Publication cost not						
				covered by sales—						
				subsidy from Endow-				6,923	12	3
				ment ...						
	43,835	8	9					43,835	8	9

Examined and found correct,  
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

For The Theosophical Society,  
H. B. F. MOORHEAD,  
Hony. Treasurer.  
ADYAR  
18th December, 1954.

## INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT OF THE

Budget	EXPENSE						Rs.	A.	P.
Rs.									
19,000	To Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	...	19,955	5	3
1,500	„ Copying and Comparing Charges	...	...	...	...	...	205	15	0
2,000	„ Repairs, Lighting and Conservancy	...	...	...	...	...	2,111	11	9
1,000	„ Postages	...	...	...	...	...	632	0	6
1,000	„ Printing and Stationery	...	...	...	...	...	1,263	9	5
300	„ Fire Insurance	...	...	...	...	...	209	8	6
300	„ Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	1,023	13	3
							25,401	15	8
5,000	„ Subsidy to Publications	...	...	...	...	...	6,923	12	3
1,500	„ Reserve for Gratuities	...	...	...	...	Rs. A. P.	1,500	0	0
400	„ Reserve for Depreciation	...	...	...	...	669	6	0	
						2,169	6	0	
	„ Capital Expenditure :								
1,500	Books and Manuscripts	...	...	...	...	1,328	6	2	
	Furniture	...	...	...	...	11,847	1	0	
	Improvements to Buildings	...	...	...	...	8,250	6	0	
	„ Allocations :								
	Donation Box	...	...	...	...	25	5	0	
							23,620	8	2
							55,946	4	1



## ADYAR LIBRARY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30-9-54

INCOME				Rs.	A.	P.	Budget Rs.
By T.S. Contribution	...	...	...	5,000	0	0	5,000
" Adyar Day Allocation	...	...	...	2,000	0	0	2,000
" Miscellaneous Receipts and Donations	...	...	...	532	13	0	400
" Donation Box	...	...	...	25	5	0	
" Interest on Endowments	...	...	...	4,657	9	1	6,800
" Copying and Comparing Charges	...	...	...	657	11	0	
				12,873	6	1	
" Deduction from Endowment Fund	...	...	34,822 8 0				
" " " Building Fund	...	...	8,250 6 0				
				43,072	14	0	
				55,946	4	1	

## BALANCE SHEET OF THE

LIABILITIES AND FUNDS				Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Endowment Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet...	...	...	...	63,882	9	6			
Add Amount received during the year	...	...	...	1,36,484	6	8			
				2,00,367	0	2			
Less Excess of Expense over Income for the year	...	...	...	34,822	8	0	1,65,544	8	2
<i>Building Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,25,420	15	9			
Less cost of Improvements during the year	...	...	...	8,250	6	0	1,17,170	9	9
<i>Capital Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,66,632	10	5			
Add Capital expense during the year as per contra	...	...	...	13,175	7	2	1,79,808	1	7
<i>Publications Fund :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...				17,814	11	7
<i>Gratuities Reserve :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	6,248	3	1			
Less Payments during the year	...	...	...	930	11	3			
				5,317	7	10			
Add Additions during the year	...	...	...	1,500	0	0	6,817	7	10
<i>Book Deposit :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	951	0	0			
Add Receipts during the year	...	...	...	160	0	0			
				1,111	0	0			
Less Refunds	...	...	...	140	0	0	971	0	0
Reserve for Purchase of books	...	...	...				1,000	0	0
<i>Donation Box :</i>									
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	...	1,643	11	0			
Add Receipts during the year	...	...	...	25	5	0			
				1,669	0	0			
Less Expenses during the year	...	...	...	416	15	6	1,252	0	6
Sundry Creditors	...	...	...				1,148	0	3
							4,91,526	7	8

ADYAR LIBRARY AS ON 30-9-54

ASSETS			Rs. A. P.			Rs. A. P.		
<i>Manuscripts and Books :</i>								
Balance as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	1,47,315	11	10	1,48,644	2	0
Add Purchases during the year	...	...	1,328	6	2			
<i>Furniture :</i>								
Original Value as per last Balance Sheet	...	...	14,927	0	9	23,250	5	6
Add Purchases during the year	...	...	11,847	1	0			
			26,774	1	9	31,196	6	6
Less Depreciation to date	...	...	3,523	12	3			
Stock of Publications on hand	...	...	...	...	...	139	11	0
Prepaid Fire Insurance Premium	...	...	...	...	...	1,263	9	4
Deferred Printing and Stationery Expenses	...	...	...	...	...	233	3	0
Stock of Insecticides, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	534	9	0
Sundry Debtors including advances	...	...	...	...	...	15	0	0
Cash on hand	...	...	...	...	...	2,86,249	9	4
Due by T.S.	...	...	...	...	...			

Examined and found correct.  
V. SOUNDARARAJAN & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants.

## THE ADYAR LIBRARY

BUDGET ESTIMATE—INCOME AND EXPENSE  
ACCOUNT FOR 1954-'55

EXPENSE	Actuals for 1953-'54	Budget for 1954-'55	INCOME	Actuals for 1953-'54	Budget for 1954-'55
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
To Salaries and Wages ...	19,955	22,000	By T.S. Contribution ...	5,000	5,000
„ Copying and Comparing Charges ...	206	1,000	„ Adyar Day Allocation ...	2,000	2,000
„ Repairs, Lighting and Conser- vancy ...	2,112	1,000	„ Miscellaneous Receipts ...	533	500
„ Postages ...	632	700	„ Copying and Comparing Charges ...	658	
„ Printing and Stationery ...	1,264	1,500	„ Interest on Endowments ...	4,658	8,000
„ Fire Insurance ...	210	210	„ Deficit ...		20,110
„ Miscellaneous ...	1,024	1,000			
„ Gratuity Reserve ...	1,500	1,500			
„ Depreciation ...	669	700			
„ Subsidy to Publication ...	6,924	6,000			
		35,610			35,610
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE					
„ Purchase of Books and Manu- scripts ...		1,000			
„ Purchase of Furniture ...		2,000			
		3,000			

ALAIN DANIELOU,  
Hony. Director,  
Adyar Library.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

REPORTS OF THE GENERAL SECRETARIES  
OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETIES, OF  
PRESIDENTIAL AGENTS AND OF  
FEDERATION SECRETARIES

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These reports in some instances have been translated into English, edited or condensed in the office of the Recording Secretary.

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## THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

For some weeks in the preparation of this annual report, the General Secretary reflected upon the Section's work as a whole, examining reports, discussing their observations with lecturers who have visited the Lodges, considering advice and criticisms, and the evidence that historical trends and statistical figures reveal. From these sources and from his own travels among the Lodges, he was able to judge the Section's relative state of health. This year, as in past years, it is deeply encouraging that, although we live in these rapidly changing times, the members of the Theosophical Society are so steadily pursuing the Society's work, disseminating the knowledge of Theosophy and reflecting its truths in their lives. That they do so is a manifestation of a special kind of character development. It requires a self-restraint and determined effort of an altruistic nature to establish the Theosophical position in any given environment. In order for a group of individuals to achieve and maintain harmony through a balanced programme of activity, there is demanded of every one the use of superior traits of character. And, surely, it is an enduring element of character that is unfolded at last in every person who weathers the storms and serves loyally all his life this Society's cause. This special character development is the distilled treasure that a Theosophist will harvest from this incarnation. Is this particular advantage

of Lodge membership given the consideration it merits?

The vital Lodges are those where character standards are high, where members naturally look first to themselves for supplying the needs of the work. There is a tendency sometimes to expect that from some other source—from the National Headquarters, for example—there will be provided as from some storehouse, every aid that will guarantee vitality in a Lodge. There are, of course, certain aids to be expected of Headquarters such as organizational procedures based on wider experience, the existence of nationally accumulated resources that are channelled through the Headquarters, the gains made in local areas that can be shared with every Lodge when they are transmitted through Headquarters. These things can be expected. Above all, the members may expect of their National Headquarters adherence to the main purposes of the Society in the conduct of its affairs through established policies and methods, based upon good faith, trustworthiness and probity, the upholding of standards that are consistent with our philosophy. These things can be expected. But the Lodges will grow in strength—and the Society will become stronger—only as local groups, drawing upon their own resources, not only face and solve their local problems but, in addition, contribute of their strength to the whole national body. This is the sacrificial soil wherein

is rooted the regenerating power of a unified group—of an organization that would serve the world's need.

The Lodge structure is the bone and sinew of the Theosophical Society. It has created a public platform all over the world and in 134 cities of the United States from which Theosophy can be presented by national and international speakers. To maintain this structure, public lecturing, speaking and class teaching are requisite and have to be continually encouraged throughout the Section. We need more, not less, effort in this direction.

Judging from a summary of all reports, lecture audiences seem to be smaller, generally, than in the past. Because of this trend, it is sometimes thought that the presentation of Theosophy from the lecture platform may have seen its day. Surely this is not the case. There is nothing we know of that can replace the experience shared by both audience and speaker through public lectures. Lecturing and class activities are the foremost means by which new members become active, sustaining members. Therefore, in the national programme, top priority is given to the planning and offering of lecture itineraries. The speakers who are engaged have first, of course, to be those who are available. In addition, they are those who, in the estimation of the Administration, can advance forcefully the position of Theosophy while bringing to the Lodges an understanding, and harmonizing influence, as well as an inspiring vision of the whole work. The lecturer's effect should be the encouraging of the study of Theosophy, as well as the promoting of the Society's Objects with increased enthusiasm. One effect of the national lecturer's visit is to stimulate an interest in public speaking in those members who have the capacity. Thus, the lecture programme, made available from

Headquarters year by year, contributes materially to the cohesive force that unifies our members and Lodges into a national and international body.

*National Field Programme.*—The lecture field this past season continued to benefit for a brief period from the visit of Mr. Geoffrey Hodson who completed his tour of the American Section by including two Lodges in the Northwest and Canada. In April we were honored to greet our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who returned to America for his third tour of this Section. He was accompanied by Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram and his secretary Miss Elithe Nisewanger. After the first part of the tour Mrs. Sri Ram proceeded to "Olcott," while the President continued his itinerary visiting Buffalo, Toronto, Detroit, Atlanta, Tampa, the Section in Cuba, the Gulf Coast and Texas Federations, before reaching "Olcott" for a few days' rest and a public lecture there. He then departed for the Northwest and included Vancouver and Victoria, Canada, along with Federations of the Northwest and Northern and Southern California. From Denver he flew to Mexico for a five-day visit, before returning to "Olcott" to be our honored guest at the Summer Sessions.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Norman Pearson visited almost the entire Section this year, including the western Lodges of the Canadian Federation as well as Winnipeg, Montreal and Toronto in the east. Mr. Seymour Ballard has travelled to nearly all the Lodges in the Section with the exception of those on the west coast. The National President, for reasons of the Society's business, has been obliged to remain near the Headquarters, but he and Mrs. Perkins toured the eastern federations and later attended the conventions of the Ohio and Illinois-Wisconsin Federations.

*Membership.*—As a result of all activities, 354 persons during the year have joined

the Society ; but 310 others became inactive. Sixty-nine were reinstated and nine transferred to this Section. There were 28 resignations, six were transferred to other Sections, 75 passed from our midst. Therefore our national membership increased but slightly, from 4,075 to 4,078. One Lodge was chartered in Santa Barbara, while five charters were recalled from inactive Lodges.

*Spotlight.*—As mentioned last year, there has been a temporary suspension of this activity. The Spotlight programme, in the seven years of its existence, saw the chartering of 32 new Lodges, of which 27 are still functioning, and brought more than 600 active members into the work. Planning for a new approach to the Spotlight programme has been continued throughout the year. Mr. and Mrs. Felix Layton will assist in the work, and the plan will be further developed by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Pearson, who will concentrate their efforts in federated areas where extensive follow-up work can be instituted.

*Finances.*—The year has shown a surplus of income over expenditure, due to several bequests. The Society's income from dues, although moderately increasing annually, has never approached balancing the expenses.

*National Election.*—This year has seen the election of the national officers of our Section. The National President was re-elected for a further term of three years, and several changes were made in the Board of Directors. The new Vice-President is Dr. Henry A. Smith, of River Forest, Illinois.

*National Headquarters.*—Improvements to the estate have been effected, including the planting of two new groves, the Brother Raja Grove, and the L. W. Rogers Grove ; also the construction by the Young Theosophists of a circular stone bench on the grounds to serve as a centre of their activities.

*Department of Education.*—The Department's most important activity during the second year of its existence was the holding of two 10-day Workshop sessions, in March and September, for prospective teachers of Theosophy and group leaders. They were enthusiastically attended and so successful that plans are being made to hold similar Workshops twice a year in future. This Department also takes care of the lantern-slide collection from which loans are made to Lodges (7 new sets have been added), and tape-recordings, tape-visuals and the motion picture "Glimpses of 'Olcott'," by Dr. R. Chesrow. Extensive correspondence is carried on with regard to Lodge programmes, study courses and radio talks.

*The American Theosophist.*—Various new features have been introduced during the year, for example, News from Federations, and Letters from our Readers. Also one particular Lodge each month is specially presented. Additional space has been provided for special activities. A series happily received is "Olcott at Work".

*Discovery.*—The number of copies sent out last year was slightly lower, at 75,000. This leaflet meets a definite Lodge need and will be continued as part of the national programme.

*Department of Information.*—There were 862 new inquirers, 25 per cent more than in the previous year, and through it 60 new members joined the Society. This is a record.

*The National Library.*—There was an increase of about 10 per cent in the number of books loaned. The total number of books in the Library remains at about 10,000.

*The Theosophical Press.*—The gross sales of the Theosophical Press exceeded even the record sales of last year, the sale of publicity leaflets remaining the same at 32,418 copies. New pamphlets



include *Theosophy and Christianity* by Arthur Coon, *Right Compromise* by Sidney A. Cook, *Let's Look at Life* by E. Norman Pearson, and *Theosophy and the Young Child*, a reprint from the June issue of *The American Theosophist*. Subscriptions to *The Theosophist* are now 503, which is slightly more than last year.

**Radio.**—This year has seen the further organization on a national scale for putting Theosophy on the air. The promoting of interest is in the hands of the National Radio Committee, while the supply source of radio material for these projects is the Foundation for Radio Theosophy. During the year tape-recordings for radio programmes were supplied by the Foundation to 12 cities, five of which are in their third year of uninterrupted broadcasting of Theosophy. The Foundation has a 2-year programme of 15-minute tape-recordings available. Over the New Orleans radio station WPTS Miss Olga Kaufmann has since 1949 conducted a continuous series of Theosophical broadcasts.

**Olcott Foundation.**—This year seven lectures were submitted, out of which the award was unanimously given to Mr. Felix Layton for his lecture entitled "Theosophy Bridges a Gap 'Twixt Science and Religion".

**Letters to Editors.**—The Lodges have continued to receive from Headquarters carefully prepared letters for use on suitable occasions in local newspapers. Replies from readers to letters printed have in some instances resulted in membership of the Society.

**Young Theosophists.**—The band of Young Theosophists has become a re-activated organization, with a new set of by-laws. The continued publication of its journal *Youth and Brotherhood* serves both as a medium of free expression and a means of linking isolated individuals and groups.

**Mothers' Research Group.**—After twenty years of fruitful effort, an endeavor has been made to increase the international scope of the work, and an advertisement sent to Section journals evoked an enthusiastic response. Additions have been made to the list of publications, the quarterly journal *The Mothers Bulletin* has increased the number of its pages, and courses of study and information are provided.

**The Theosophical Order of Service.**—Six departments and three divisions have been active, including The Watcher, Social Service, To-Those-Who-Mourn Club, Arts and Crafts, Animal Welfare, World Peace, and Healing, the latter being the one which commands the greatest attention.

**Theosophical Book Association for the Blind.**—Twenty-seven new names have been added to the mailing list and four new blind readers have joined the Society. The publication of the Theosophical Quarterly continues, with a members' Supplement each month for blind members of the Society.

**Meditation for Beginners** by J. I. Wedgwood was sent to blind members at Christmas. A Soundsciber department, instituted last year, now has 53 books and 6 lectures transcribed on discs. Sixty new Braille volumes were transcribed and bound for the free lending library and 44 new books added; 660 Braille volumes and 85 Talking Books on records were borrowed during the year.

**The Theosophical Book Gift Institute.**—Last year was a banner year, with a total of 5,183 books placed in public and other libraries in 327 cities.

**Adyar Day Fund.**—Due to the death of Mr. Thomas Pond, who had for a number of years managed this Fund, it was this year conducted from Headquarters and realized a total amount of \$5,777.70.



*Raja Commemorative Fund.*—The amount collected in the American Section so far totals \$ 5,845.65.

It is ever inspiring to remember that day by day throughout the year the Ancient Wisdom is being disseminated by members of the Theosophical Society, even though their activities remain unknown and unrecorded. Joined with the

energy of the national officers and those of Headquarters and the energies of all members of the Section, we will in the coming year bring Theosophy more fully into the arena of modern thought and modern life to the greater service of mankind and the world.

JAMES S. PERKINS,  
*General Secretary.*

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## ENGLAND

The membership of the Theosophical Society in England shows a small increase, and now stands at 3,231. There has been a decrease of one in the number of Lodges, which is now 116, but this does not indicate any lack of interest or enthusiastic work throughout the country. There is a decided increase in the number of study groups and potential centres which are not yet strong enough to apply for Lodge charters.

During the year we have had the pleasure and privilege of two short visits from the President and his wife, who were with us for a fortnight in March and again for a few days in the summer at a Regional Summer School. In March both the President and Srimati Bhagirathi gave lectures, mainly in London, before visiting other Sections in the British Isles.

Mr. Geoffrey Hodson toured the Section for ten weeks in the spring and early summer and travelled extensively over the country. The Federations and individual Lodges co-operated wholeheartedly with this special propaganda effort, which must be regarded as an outstanding success. Attendance at the public lectures throughout the country was good, and the large number which attended the inquirers' meetings that followed the public lectures was especially satisfactory.

At Christmas three members of the Section, including the General Secretary, attended the Annual Convention in Adyar. Six of our members also attended the Scandinavian Regional Summer School at Norefjell in Norway, and the Section had a full representation at the meetings of the Council of the European Federation which met there during the same week.

In August-September a British Isles Regional Summer School was held in Derbyshire, and was in every way a success. The total attendance from all countries was 272, of which 222 belonged to the English Section. An intensive week of lectures, discussions and study courses was arranged, including three masterly lectures by the President, who endeared himself to all with whom he came in contact.

The usual Annual Convention was held at Whitsuntide with Mr. G. Hodson as guest of honor. This was extremely well attended, Besant Hall being quite full for the main meetings. The Convention followed the plan which has been found satisfactory for a number of years. The annual Blavatsky Lecture, entitled "The Yoga of the Serpent Fire," was given by Mr. E. Gall, and in addition to three members' meetings and a public lecture by Mr. Hodson there was a very successful

Symposium on "Creative Living" to which eight members from different parts of the country contributed. Lectures were given by Dr. L. J. Bendit on "Mother Earth and the Spiritual Life," by Mrs. D. Groves on "The Yoga of Devotion," and by Mr. C. R. Groves entitled "Purpose, Pattern and Process". All these have been reported in *Theosophical News and Notes*.

Among other useful functions served by the national Headquarters is that of forming a focal point for the many visitors to England. It is rare that a week passes without our being able to welcome some of our brethren from overseas.

The Library housed in London continues to be a national asset and indeed continues a very useful aspect of our propaganda work. The number of books lent either by post or to callers continues at over 11,000 per annum.

The issuing of study courses continues steadily, and eight such courses are now available. Several hundreds of these are purchased by Lodges and individual members each year.

In connection with the public lectures at the national Headquarters, an effort has been made, which has proved useful, to organize series of connected lectures covering specific subjects. Among the study classes has been The Secret Doctrine Class under Miss C. G. Trew, which has met fortnightly, and which has an attendance of about 40. Starting in the autumn a course of six study meetings by Mrs. A. Gardner on "Thought Control" will be held, for which 65 members have already enrolled. We are making an effort to develop this kind of connected study course, as it seems to fill a real need.

The work at Tekels Park, Camberley, continues to increase. From Easter onwards study weekends and camps were held at frequent intervals during the

summer. These included a well-attended weekend of the Theosophical Research Centre and an international Round Table Camp in August, which was a great success in spite of very poor weather.

The national Publicity Department continues to be active, 54 tours for lecturers and 9 study weekends being arranged during the year. The Publicity Secretary has also personally visited many Federations and Lodges. We were pleased to make use of the services of Mr. J. J. van Ginkel, who lectured extensively during the summer. The work of the Publicity Department is being greatly assisted by the instituting of a National Propaganda Fund, which is being used to assist Lodges and Centres throughout the Section with the expenses of their public lectures. The tour of Mr. Hodson, for instance, which was widely advertised, was financed entirely by this Fund. An innovation was a series of six public lectures in London, in Besant Hall, which was well advertised and attracted good audiences.

The various Federations throughout the country have continued their usual activities of conferences and lecture tours. The Easter Study Weekends of the Federations are becoming annual events, and last year were held by the Southern Federation at Oxford; by the North-Western Federation at Disley in Lancashire; by the South-Eastern Federation at Camberley; and by the Midland Federation at Malvern, Worcestershire. Reports show that these weekends form an important part of Federation life.

The Theosophical Publishing House has again had a successful trading year under the expert guidance of its Managing Director, Mr. L. Severs. In addition to the sale of previous publications, it has this year published *Health and the Spiritual Life*, by G. Hodson, *An Encyclopaedia of Psychological Astrology* by

C. E. O. Carter, *The Field of Occult Chemistry* by V. W. Slater & Dr. E. Lester-Smith (a Theosophical Research Centre publication), *The Yoga of the Serpent Fire* by E. Gall (Blavatsky Lecture), and reprints of *The Miracle of Birth* by G. Hodson, and *The Etheric Double* by A. E. Powell.

In review, the year appears to have been one of active and enthusiastic work by a large number of members throughout the Section. In the March-April issue of *Theosophical News & Notes* a tribute was paid to the unknown members of the Society in an article by Doris Groves, in which, referring to the memorial stone at

Adyar, she said : " I stood before it a few minutes in silence realizing anew something of the tremendous work that is done in all parts of the world by members whose names are scarcely known beyond the limits of their particular Lodges or Centres, but whose self-sacrifice and steady efforts ensure the continuance of the Society and the blessings of the Great Ones. I rejoiced to see them so recognized in Adyar, and their loyalty so fitly honored ". One could not end an annual report on a more appropriate note than this.

C. R. GROVES,  
General Secretary.

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## INDIA

The year 1953-54 has been one of steady progress. It is being increasingly felt that there never was a more opportune time than the present for the presentation of Theosophical ideas. Objective conditions in India, as elsewhere, are forcing people to turn towards things religious and spiritual. We are witnessing a major crisis in human history due to political and economic disillusionment that has come to large masses of people. The countries of the world are seething with discontent and India is certainly not an exception. The heaven that was promised by science and technology seems farther off today than ever it was. The political, economic and social ideologies are inadequate to meet the requirements of the age. There is a great deal of ideological clarification going on at present. In the midst of this process, Theosophical idealism is naturally receiving more and more attention. In cities and towns of India one sees larger and larger numbers of people coming to Theosophical lectures. This is indeed a very happy sign—

but this turn of events places upon existing Theosophical workers a tremendous responsibility. We will be able to use this significant moment to great advantage only if we are able to indicate through our speeches and writings, and above all else through the example of our lives, that Theosophy is a philosophy which enables us to break up the many psychological tangles of our lives. In other words, if we can link up Theosophy with the day-to-day problems of man we will be able to turn many people away from the futile political, economic and social ideologies which constitute their fields of experimentation at present.

*Lecture Tours.*—Srimati Rukmini Devi presided over the annual session of the Bombay Theosophical Federation and during the course of the year visited Lodges in the Bombay and Delhi Federations.

Srimati Shridevi and I visited during the year Lodges in Bombay, Gujarat, Central-India-Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Marathi Federations, while I presided over the annual sessions of the

three last-named Federations. We also took part in the Regional Study Camps organized by the Indian Section. On invitation from the Theosophical Society in Ceylon we visited that country, and I presided over the Annual Convention held at Colombo. We were able to tour for four weeks visiting a number of places and helping in the reorganization of the Theosophical work in that country. It is indeed a matter of great happiness to us that Ceylon will once again be able to function as a Section of the Theosophical Society.

Sri M. Subramaniam, a national lecturer of our Section, was able to visit seven out of the fifteen Federations, and he helped also in conducting two Regional Camps. His work has been extremely useful for the development of Theosophical work in India. He was also for nine weeks in Ceylon lecturing and conducting study classes there, and it is largely due to his efforts that Ceylon is once more a Section.

During the early part of this year Mr. Groves, the General Secretary of the English Section, and Mrs. Groves, who had been attending the Adyar Convention, were able to visit Lodges in Calcutta and Bombay and to spend some days at the Indian Section Headquarters at Banaras, and we are grateful for their help.

Other lecturers to whom thanks are due are Mr. Michael Alexander, a member from Germany who has been resident at Adyar, Sri D. M. Vaswani, Sri S. N. Chowdhry, who has now become a full-time national lecturer, Mr. P. M. Advani and Prof. D. D. Kanga.

A number of prominent Theosophical workers in India have passed over during the year, among them Mrs. Margaret Cousins and Miss Helen Veale, both of whom contributed much to the causes of education and womanhood in India; also Sri Ravi Sharan Varma, Sri C. R. Parthasarathy Iyengar, Sri P. T. Pavri and Srimati Indumati Datta.

*Membership.*—We began the year with a membership of 6,505. During the year 573 new members came into the Society, while 226 dormant members were revived. As against this 71 members died, 50 resigned, 4 were transferred to other Sections, and 804 members were dropped due to non-payment of dues successively for two years, leaving a total of 6,376 on October 1st, 1954. There has thus been an over-all decrease of 129, though in seven out of the fifteen constituent Federations increases in membership have been shown. The economic depression in the country is to a large extent responsible for the fact that as many as 804 members have to be dropped out from our active list, though another major cause is lack of personal contact on the part of Federation and Lodge officers with members who tend to be inactive.

*Lodges and Centres.*—We opened the year with 393 Lodges and 46 Centres. During the year five new Lodges were formed, eight dormant Lodges revived and one Lodge was dissolved. Five new Centres were formed. Thus we have on 1st October, 1954, 405 Lodges and 51 Centres, a total of 456 units of the Indian Section as compared with 440 in the previous year.



STATEMENT SHOWING TOTAL NUMBER OF MEMBERS  
(IN GOOD STANDING) ON 1ST OCTOBER 1954

Federation	Total No. of members as on 1-10-53	Add			Total (2 to 5)	Deduct				Total (7 to 10)	Total No. of members as on 1-10-54 (6 less 11)
		New	Revived	Transfer from other Sections		Deaths	Resigned	Transfer to other Sections	Dropped		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Andhra Circars ...	953	76	40	...	1,069	6	...	...	191	197	872
Bengal ...	213	49	6	...	268	...	8	...	12	20	248
Bihar ...	307	29	16	...	352	3	...	...	36	39	313
Bombay ...	380	37	12	...	429	12	6	...	6	24	405
M. B. & Rajasthan.	278	10	6	...	294	3	1	...	36	40	254
Delhi ...	120	6	1	...	127	1	...	...	18	19	108
Gujarat ...	719	34	12	...	765	4	11	1	51	67	698
Karnataka ...	710	37	28	...	775	11	3	...	107	121	654
Kerala ...	178	16	2	...	196	1	1	...	19	21	175
Marathi ...	237	41	...	...	278	2	1	...	9	12	266
Rayalaseema ...	296	20	18	...	334	2	...	...	27	29	305
Tamil ...	611	78	44	...	733	9	...	2	150	161	572
Madras ...	263	29	7	1	300	7	2	1	16	26	274
Uttar Pradesh ...	693	71	23	...	787	6	14	...	60	80	707
Youth ...	269	22	10	...	301	...	3	...	54	57	244
H. Q. & Unattached	278	18	1	...	297	4	...	...	12	16	281
Total ...	6,505	573	226	1	7,305	71	50	4	804	929	6,376

*Federations.*—Detailed reports of the work in the fifteen Federations which make up the Indian Section show much good work done in translating Theosophical books into the various vernaculars, and most of the Federations issue a periodical in the language of the area. It is natural too that a great deal is done in the way of educational work, the running of various types of schools, Scout organization, and many kinds of social and charitable activities for children,

for women and for the sick and helpless. Interest is also taken in religious and ceremonial activities.

*Theosophical Seminars.*—For the past few years Study Camps and Training Camps have become a prominent technique of work both at the Section and the Federation levels. The Indian Section last year again organized Regional Camps at Bombay, Banaras and Adyar, these three centres conveniently serving the needs of all the Federations. These



Camps serve as very useful instruments for the development of Theosophical work in India. As conducted by the Indian Section, these seminars deal mostly with ideological clarifications so that our workers may have a clearer understanding of the different aspects of Theosophical approach, the work being so organized that both the outer and the inner aspects are taken up for discussion. The Training Camp at Adyar was under the direction of Dr. C. R. Kamath, who donated Rs. 10,000 for the holding of such Camps at Adyar. A similar sum was donated a few years ago by Mr. Dabhoiwalla of Surat for Workers Camps there. Apart from these Camps arranged by the Section, Study Camps have been organized by the Bihar, Gujarat, Andhra, Karnataka and Kerala Federations. The idea is that the Sectional Camps should concern themselves with ideological clarification, while the Federation Camps should deal with practical questions of the work.

*Revitalization of Lodges.*—The Theosophical Lodges are the primary units of our work and therefore the stronger they are, the stronger the whole Section will be. From the standpoint of *Life-content*, it is the individual member who is the primary unit, but considering the standpoint of the *Form*, it is the Lodge which is the primary unit. Both have to be taken into account. I suggest that the year 1955 be devoted to this one aspect—the *Vitalization of our Lodges*. But Lodge work demands training. I suggest that in each Federation there should be held a two-day Camp of Lodge Presidents, Secretaries and other Lodge Officers where practical matters could be discussed and general lines of work indicated. This will help greatly in organizing the Lodge work. For Federation and Section workers the Federation Study Camps and Regional Camps will be of great assistance, and

these seminars might be linked up, for greater effectiveness, with the School of the Wisdom at Adyar, which would constitute more of a Post-Graduate Course in Theosophy, if such linking could be arranged.

*Ananda Publications.*—An important piece of Theosophical work is being done from Section Headquarters through the Ananda Publications, a Hindi publishing house, in which the principal workers are Srimati Shridevi Mehta, Sri Ramachandra Shukla and Sri K. G. Bhadbhade. In the course of two years it has issued 16 books on different Theosophical subjects and a number of others are in course of preparation.

*The Section Library.*—The Section Library has now received the greater part of the legacy due to it from Mrs. K. E. Tibbits' bequest. It is aiming to make its books available for lending to students in all parts of the country, and to serve as a centre of research.

*Section Headquarters.*—The most important event at the Section Headquarters has been the shifting of the Vasanta College for Women, established by Dr. Annie Besant in 1913, from the Theosophical Society's compound to Rajghat. In the same buildings formerly used by this College there has now been started by the Besant Educational Fellowship a new College for Girls, named the Vasanta Kanya Mahavidyalaya, with already 320 girls. The various Headquarters activities have been carried on steadily.

Let us make the year 1955 a year of preparation so that we may enter upon the significant period of the last quarter of the Theosophical Society's first century of existence with vigor and vitality. Let self-preparation, individually and collectively, be our watchword for the coming year.

ROHIT MEHTA,  
General Secretary.

## AUSTRALIA

The year 1953-54 has been marked by steady progress.

The Australian Convention was held at Easter in Brisbane. Only once before, in 1910, had Brisbane been the host. The theme of the Convention was "The Divinity of Man" expressed in evolution, in the religions, in national life and world affairs. The Young Theosophists held a symposium entitled "Is Brotherhood Practical?" There was a good representation from other Lodges and Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Hill flew 1,420 miles from Perth to attend. The President, Mr. Sri Ram, cabled a greeting from Toronto.

*Membership.*—During the year there has been a slight drop of 13, after an ascending increase from 982 in 1947 to 1,210 in 1953. The total at 30th September 1954 stood at 1,197. There are sixteen Lodges in the Section; the largest are in Sydney (Blavatsky) and Melbourne with just over 300 members each; Perth, Adelaide and Brisbane have approximately from 100 to 150 each; all are flourishing centres.

Perth Lodge has returned to Arundale Building, a handsome block in Museum Street which the Lodge owns, after being exiled for fourteen years in rented rooms on St. George's Terrace. During that period the Military Department and the C.S.I.R.O. were in occupation. A re-opening ceremony was held on September 29th, with a re-dedication of members to the Great Work.

Financially the Section is in a good position.

*Theosophy in Australia*, the Section journal, which is sent free to all our members, keeps them in touch with one another and with the Section Headquarters.

The prize in the Arundale Lecture Competition was awarded to Mr. J. F. Maxwell, Melbourne Lodge, for an essay en-

titled "Theosophy, an Exposition of Life," which was read at the Convention.

A new batch of pamphlets is at present being printed, 1,000 each of six 4-page folders for free distribution, also 1,000 of *Death and Beyond (To Those Who Mourn)*. A Western Australian member while in hospital helped to finance the pamphlets by donating, instead of bequeathing, £200 for propaganda. She passed away a few months later. Another member has sponsored 500 copies of a booklet, *Australia, Birthplace of a New Race*, by Geoffrey Hodson.

A welcome visitor to Australia is Mrs. Marion Lavender, M.A., from Adyar, who has spent six months in Perth and is now working east. She will reach Sydney for the Convention next April. Miss Mary Graham, from New Zealand, spent a month in Sydney and a month in Brisbane and Toowoomba, giving illustrated lectures on India and other subjects. The Bhikku Thittila came from Burma at the invitation of the Buddhist Society of New South Wales and addressed Blavatsky Lodge; he used the Savoy Theatre for three public addresses and gave three radio talks over Station 2GB. He also visited Melbourne.

Youth movements are vigorous in all States. There is a fine type joining, some European immigrants amongst them, and they bring a freshness and zest to Lodge work. Last Christmas the whole Youth Federation held a camp in the Blue Mountains, outside Sydney, and all groups join in hikes and theatre parties.

Though the Theosophical Order of Service is not organized as a Section activity, work is being done by the branches, notably the Hospice, a home for aged ladies in Brisbane. Recently the Sydney branch has established the Order of Service Children's Homes Trust to provide a

home for needy children of a promising type.

Convention approved the idea of Liaison Officers, each Lodge to have a Liaison communicating with the Section Liaison (General Secretary) and he with Liaisons overseas. The plan is working well.

The United Nations was enthusiastically celebrated in October 1953 with five addresses and two broadcasts. One of the speakers in the Savoy Theatre, Sydney, was Dr. Roberto Regala, Minister for the Philippines, who was also transmitted on short-wave by Radio Australia to thirteen target areas abroad. This broad-

cast and press reports of his statement gave credit to the Theosophical Society. The effect of the campaign was to improve our public relations on a high level and to link the United Nations with the Theosophical conception of brotherhood.

Sixty years ago, in 1894, Mrs. Besant was in Australia organizing a Section. Colonel Olcott issued a charter at Adyar dated 1st January 1895. The 60th anniversary will be celebrated at the Diamond Jubilee Convention in Sydney next April, and a Summer School will follow, the first of its kind in Australia.

J. L. DAVIDGE,  
*General Secretary.*

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## SWEDEN

The normal work of this Section has continued. We number now 432 members, which means some increase, and 21 Lodges, since a second Lodge has been formed in Goteborg. In Stockholm activity is remarkably intense. In Goteborg and some other places it is fairly good, but many smaller centres are dormant. The vast area of this country, with its thin population, is a hindrance for all organizations. On the other hand, the mighty woods and wild nature cannot but be an essential living and healthy force on our side when we try to search for the spirit of Theosophy, and be an incarnation of that Theosophy which every man needs.

A contact with Adyar was given to the members in the three main towns by the showing of the color film of Adyar taken during the 75th International Convention. Mr. John Coats from England lectured in many Lodges and showed lantern slides. His visit was much appreciated and the Section hopes to see him again. As usual, Mr. Otto

Viking from Denmark visited many of our Lodges and gave fresh spiritual and illuminating presentations of Theosophy. The General Secretary has during the past year lectured in the northern, middle and southern districts of this Section, thus getting into more thorough contact with the members. Other Swedish lecturers have tried to cover the vast field. We have specially tried to help the Boras Lodge, which has successfully restarted its activity. The Harnosand Lodge has had a long pralaya but some of its members and friends have now started a public Theosophical study-circle. Among non-members invited to lecture there was a Buddhist monk from Ceylon, who visited some of our Lodges, and though his views were in some fields narrow, he did attract the newspapers and large audiences. The partly new public did in that connection at least appreciate the tolerance of the Theosophical Society.

Nearly 60 Swedish members registered for the Scandinavian Regional

Summer School in Norway, and most of them took part in it. Our well-known former General Secretary, Mr. Erik Cronvall, died on his way to that School. It was a great pleasure and of value for our Theosophists to meet so many other Scandinavian and European Theosophists, and to contact the members of the European Council which held its annual meeting at the same place just prior to the Summer School. The theme of the lectures was "Spiritual Pioneering in the West," and many good lecturers from a number of Sections contributed. Even the economic gain was considerable and a fund for regional work has been established. The new chairman of the Scandinavian Regional Committee is the Norwegian General Secretary, Mr. Erling Havrevold, who succeeds Mr. Elis Wikstrom.

The financial situation of the Swedish Section has been alarming but during the past year we have succeeded in changing the position into a more hopeful one. The Board's appeal for help was answered by the members in a more generous manner than was ever expected, and moreover the expenses have been kept down while the income rentals have been increased. It may even be mentioned that our bookshop proves to be a valuable help, not only in bringing Theosophy to the smallest places but even in helping to make it financially possible for us to print books. One direct consequence of the financial change is that we have now been able to begin to print our President's book *A Theosophist Looks at the World*, possibly the first book by Mr. N. Sri Ram to be printed in a Scandinavian country. In addition, further repairs to our Headquarters have been carried out and a new study-room has been provided. Members and Lodges have proved to be

ready to make sacrifices when appeals have been made to help suffering people abroad with money and clothes.

A great many of our new members are young people, which is a matter of satisfaction and a hopeful sign. During the past year 11 young members in Stockholm have become members of "The Young Theosophists in Europe" group, an organization which has for a long time hardly been active in Sweden. This group not only works at ordinary Theosophical study meetings, but together with eight young friends has prepared a play about ancient Egypt. In this connection it may be mentioned that the Round Table works satisfactorily in Stockholm with 32 members and two Tables. It has a few times performed a play called "The Brotherhood of Children".

At our Annual Meeting many of the Rules of the Section were changed. The changes aim at a more balanced representation on the Section's Board of the different Lodges and groups of members, and a swifter change of representatives. Another innovation is a rule to have district secretaries to help the General Secretary and the Board with the work in different parts of this vast country.

There is in some members and Lodges a growing search for new ways to present Theosophy. Some try the Ritual of the Mystic Star. There is a feeling that the new time asks from us as a Society an activity which is less dominated by lectures, logic and intellect, and more dominated by something higher. There is the longing for men who are spiritually so alive that they themselves are always new from within.

ELIS WIKSTROM,  
General Secretary.



## NEW ZEALAND

*Touring Lecturers.*—Mr. C. D. T. Shores, past International Treasurer of the Theosophical Society, visited New Zealand and lectured to about half of the Lodges.

Mr. H. H. Banks visited all the South Island Lodges, Wellington and Kerikeri (C.J.) Lodges.

Miss S. Chase visited every Lodge in New Zealand, and Miss Georgina Boyd also visited most of the Lodges, many of them twice.

Mr. Max Tooley visited most of the main Centres.

Mr. Frank Goodey lectured to nearly all the Lodges, and within the next few days the General Secretary will have completed his visits to every Lodge.

In addition to this a number of other lecturers from different Lodges have kindly visited and lectured to other Lodges.

*Mr. Geoffrey Hodson.*—Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, who was welcomed back from England and the Continent in July, visited Dunedin, Christchurch, and Wellington, and has taken the public lectures and members' meetings in Auckland for the last three months. In addition to this he has done a considerable amount of literary work, and written a book and several articles for our Section magazine. He had over 500 at his first public lecture in the Town Hall, and has had very large audiences at all his other meetings.

He left Auckland on September 27th to direct the School of the Wisdom at Adyar, for the 1954-55 session. Following this he will tour the Lodges in British East Africa, Rhodesia and Southern Africa, will be the guest-speaker for the Southern African Convention, then will be the guest of the New Zealand Section for 3 months, after which he will tour

the United States of America for 10 months, be the guest of the New Zealand Section for 8 months, and afterwards tour Australia.

*New Lodges and Groups.*—A new Lodge formed at Kerikeri with sixteen members, has increased in numbers since its formation. A new group has been formed in Nelson, and successful experiments have been carried out in the formation of Drawing-room Lodges.

*Tape-recordings.*—Tape-recordings by our International President and by Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, and a record by Mr. C. Jinarajadasa have been made available to Lodges.

Dramatic presentations have been collected and catalogued at Section Headquarters. Presentations have been made by a number of Lodges.

*Membership.*—The membership at 30th September 1954 stands at 915 compared with 921 at the same time last year.

*Raja Commemorative Fund.*—The sum of £111-2-0 has been sent to Adyar for this Fund.

*School of the Wisdom.*—Miss Cecilia Pollard of the Dunedin Lodge, and Miss Sandra Chase, National Lecturer, are attending the School of the Wisdom. Miss Mary Graham of Wellington Lodge hopes to attend also.

*National Lecturer.*—Our loyal worker Mr. Harry Banks unfortunately had to relinquish his office of National Lecturer for reasons of health, and Miss Sandra Chase, Assistant National Lecturer, has been elected as National Lecturer.

*Magazine.*—*Theosophy in New Zealand* has undergone a change of form and presentation at the hands of its Editor, Mrs. Roma Dunningham. Great interest has become evident in the scientific endorsement of Theosophical teachings.



## THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

*Healing Groups.*—The T. O. S. has organized two successful healing groups, and a third is now being formed.

*Old Workers' Home.*—Two offers of about £1,000 each have been received, and as soon as more are received it is hoped to purchase a suitable property.

*Animal Welfare.*—The T.O.S. in association with the combined Animal Welfare Organization of New Zealand was responsible for much of the success in having Live Hare Coursing and Live Bird Shooting abolished by law in New Zealand.

Support was given to Rukmini Devi Arundale's "Animals' Bill" for India.

*Anti-fluoridization Campaign.*—Efforts have been made to prevent the State Fluoridization of the water-supply, both for health reasons and upon the principle of Democracy.

*Easter Summer School.*—A successful and well-attended Summer School was held at Orewa at Easter time, morning reflections, study classes, a brains' trust, camp-fire and humor being included.

*Entered into Peace.*—Twenty-three of our older members have passed on this year. Mr. T. G. Queree kindly left £300 to Headquarters, £500 to Wellington Lodge, £200 each to Auckland, Christchurch, and Dunedin Lodges, and £50 each to all other Lodges in the Section in existence at the time of his decease. The generosity of people such as Mr. Queree is of inestimable help in our important work.

*Section Funds.*—Substantial donations for both the Penny-a-day Fund and the General Purposes Fund will need to be sent in to enable us to carry out the programme of expansion which we have in view for the coming year.

*Social Afternoons and Evenings* for new members are held regularly at Section Headquarters.

A successful dinner of welcome to Mr. Geoffrey Hodson was arranged by Section Headquarters at "Sorrento" Restaurant, and a combined farewell and presentation in conjunction with the H.P.B. Lodge was given to Mr. Hodson on the eve of his departure.

*Theosophical Educational Trust Board.*—The Vasanta Garden School has again carried out a very successful year of instruction and help to its many pupils.

*Appreciation.*—Miss Hunt has kindly kept us regularly posted with a summary of activities at Adyar, and of her work there. Our work in New Zealand has been considerably helped by advice from Mr. and Mrs. Crawford, Miss Ockenden and many others.

*Conclusion.*—Our keynote for the coming year for our Society to present to the public will be "Theosophy the Transforming Power" and our theme for each Lodge and each individual member will be "To leave no stone unturned". With the full co-ordination of the Transforming Power of Theosophy, and the efficient and full use of every possible opportunity we should help to fulfil our privilege of "Popularizing a knowledge of Theosophy."

BRIAN DUNNINGHAM,  
General Secretary.

## NETHERLANDS

*Membership.*—As reported last year, the membership on September 30th, 1953, stood at 1,641. However in consequence of a revised administration we had to verify the actual number of members, and the result was the unusually large number of 58 lapsings. Therefore, in spite of 89 new members, the net result is a small decrease of 7, the total number at the end of the year under report being 1,634.

*General Work.*—After my election to the office of General Secretary, my wife and I decided to move into the old Headquarters in Amsterdam, hoping to revivify it and to change it gradually into a centre of greater inspiration. We had some useful gatherings there with representatives of Lodges and with a number of Young Theosophists. Also our regular visits to the Lodges in turn proved to be a means of renewed life to the Lodges, while on the other hand such visits proved very instructive to the new General Secretary. Happily our experience was that many Lodges are quite alive and prepared to do the work the Society stands for. There are 37 Lodges in all, 7 Centres, and 5 Centres of Young Theosophists.

*Publicity.*—At the beginning of the year under report we had a troublesome time with regard to our publishing department. The organization and the sale of books are now centred at Headquarters, and a new committee is taking care of the business. Gradually the output of books is increasing, but we have still to consider the improvement of our finances so that we may resume the issuing of new publications.

*Help for Refugees.*—Inspired by the appeal initiated by Madame A. de Berg for help to refugees at one of the camps in Greece, several of the members and Lodges of our Section have given generous support, so that we were able to forward a fair amount of money to the authorities concerned.

*Annual Convention.*—Our Annual Convention took place at Amsterdam on 13th and 14th June. The subject chosen on this occasion was "The Message of Theosophy to Science". Professor Dr. Haas of The Hague gave a general introduction to the subject. Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, our guest of honor, spoke on "The Riddle of Generation and Regeneration in the Organic Kingdom," and the well-known Professor Tenhaeff of Utrecht dealt with his special subject, "Psychical Research". The Convention was well attended, about 375 members being present.

*Visit of the President.*—At the end of the year under review we were greatly honored by the visit of our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram. He gave a beautiful and inspiring address on "Creative Living" at The Hague to members of the Section, some 350 of them being present.

*Visit to Norway.*—Towards the end of June the General Secretary and his wife had the privilege of attending the European Federation Council meeting at Norefjell, in Norway.

B. WOUTERS,  
General Secretary.

## FRANCE

No Report

## ITALY

The year that followed our 39th Annual Convention held in Rome early in October 1954, while rich in external events, from the Theosophical point of view displayed the increasing hostility of the Catholic Church which, through her parish bulletins printed in provincial towns, notifies that the Holy Office by a decree dated July 18th, 1919, has condemned the Theosophical doctrines as opposed to the Catholic dogma, forbidding all Catholics adherence to the Theosophical Society, attendance at any Theosophical gathering, and the reading of Theosophical books, magazines or any other writings.

The Catholic Church has once more revealed her offensive method against everything that is not literally in harmony with her teachings, and with the defence of her dogmas. All Catholics are forbidden to get acquainted with any doctrine or science which does not agree with the principles crystallized in her dogmas, and it is considered a sin, worthy of excom-

munication, to belong to the Theosophical Society.

The Theosophical Society, notwithstanding the difficulties of the environment, the conformance of the masses, and the religious indifference of the intellectual class, has, during the past year, increased its membership by 51 new members, against a loss of 17 members, of which eight died, two resigned and seven lapsed.

Some of the Lodges have spread active propaganda. Worthy of mention are the Lodges of Turin, Milan, Rome and Naples. The General Secretary delivered public lectures in Turin, Trieste, and Rome, and has devoted special care to the publication of the monthly Theosophical review *Alba Spirituale*, which is highly appreciated by the Italian and foreign press and is the most efficient means of propaganda and defence of Theosophical thought in the Italian Section of the Society.

GUISEPPE GASCO,  
*General Secretary.*

## GERMANY

During the year under review we have had 229 outgoing and 46 incoming members. This decrease of 183 members was necessary, because we have dropped all those who had not paid their annual fees or shown any interest in the work for a long time. Our Section, therefore, now consists of 440 members.

During this year I was able to visit nearly all our Lodges. I lectured everywhere and had the impression that all the Lodges are working very well. It was especially important that I was able for the first time to go also to Berlin, where I gave two lectures to inspire the two

Lodges there and to encourage them to continue their work in the spirit of Adyar in spite of all the difficulties they have to meet; I found very many interested and enthusiastic members.

I was also able to be present at a meeting of a group of Lodges in Rheinland and Westfalen in Dortmund, where I gave a lecture to about 50 members and guests. On my tour to West Germany I opened a new Lodge, "Shanti," in Darmstadt.

The culminating point of our work was again our Summer School in Rendsburg. It was the fifth time that we had gathered

there for a whole week. We were very happy to have with us there our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram and Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram, as guests of honor. Mr. Sri Ram gave us four beautiful lectures, and I am now at work translating them into German in order to have them duplicated and distributed to members and Lodges. Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram also gave a wonderful lecture and rejoiced her audience with her freshness and humor. In addition we had lectures on several topics by four German lecturers, among them Mr. Alexander, who had sent us from Adyar his lecture on "The Adyar Spirit". There was, in addition, a lecture about our Headquarters in Adyar, with lantern slides which were explained by the President.

The Summer School was attended by 130 members, and there were present representatives of nearly all the Lodges in our country, with an especially big number from Berlin, Hamburg, Bremen and Hannover. We had also some guests from other countries : U.S.A., England,

the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Finland.

It seems to me of great importance that in this way the German members come into direct contact with friends outside their own country. All members of the Summer School were very happy in the wonderful atmosphere of harmony and brotherliness which they enjoyed during this week of living together.

Because we have among our members a few who are good musicians, all our meetings were begun and ended with music, and we had some wonderful concerts. So much good music gives our Summer School quite a special character.

In connection with the Summer School we held our Section Convention, which takes place once every three years. Our President Mr. Sri Ram was so kind as to preside over this Convention and altogether it was a very harmonious meeting. By 321 votes to 7 the General Secretary was re-elected for another three years.

MARTIN BOYKEN,  
*General Secretary.*

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## CUBA

No Report

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## HUNGARY

No Report

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## FINLAND

Our working season last autumn began with a weekend Conference in Helsinki toward the end of September. Several provincial members attended the meetings. There was also a public lecture on the Sunday at noon delivered by

Mr. Armas Rankka. It was his last talk before he became ill. About two months later he departed from our midst. Mr. Rankka was one of our foremost elder workers. For 17 years he was our General Secretary.



Outwardly our activities have not shown great changes.

There are in Helsinki seven Lodges. Six of them hold their meetings every week. The seventh was established by members formerly living in that part of Finland which now belongs to Russia. During the past few years many of them have passed away, and new members are not joining this Lodge. It still exists, but holds its meetings only once a month. At the beginning of this year we founded a study group for beginners. It meets every fortnight and about 20 members have been present at each gathering. The activities of children and young people have continued as before. The Lotus Circle has about 25 children, the Round Table 30 and the Young People's Group about 10 members. Question and Answer Meetings for the public were held, as before, every Saturday, and the main Theosophical Anniversaries were celebrated with festivals. We collected Fmk. 40,000 for the Adyar Day Fund, which amount was transmitted to Adyar.

There are in the country 15 Lodges, which meet regularly. Some public lectures have been delivered by the General Secretary and by some of the Lodge members. Every provincial Lodge and unattached member receives once a month a Circular Letter from the Executive Committee containing material for discussion and study.

We were greatly privileged to have Mr. John Coats among us in March for a fortnight. He gave three lectures in Helsinki and showed us lantern slides of India and Mexico. He then visited seven Lodges in the country and showed his much appreciated lantern slides there too.

Our Annual Convention was held at Easter in Helsinki with many lectures and discussions. About 200 members attended every meeting.

The General Secretary and ten other members attended the Scandinavian Summer School at Norefjell in Norway, two of our members attended the British Isles Regional Summer School at The Hayes, Derbyshire, and one member went to the German Summer School at Rendsburg.

Our Section journal *Teosofi* has been an important unifying force keeping members in touch with our National Headquarters in Helsinki and informing them not only in regard to activities in Finland but also in regard to the activities of the Society generally. It is of special value to those members who live alone in country districts and are unable to keep in contact with Lodges. We have also some hundreds of subscribers who are not members, so the journal is a good means of propaganda for the public.

On September 5th this year we had an extraordinary Official Meeting of our Section in Helsinki in order to deal with the purchase of a new summer resort for our members, to replace the old one which we lost during the war. The story told shortly is as follows :

In 1933 some members formed a joint company, called Guest House "Merila", which bought an estate in the South-eastern part of Finland on the shore of the Finnish Bay some 30 km. from the Russian frontier. It was a summer resort for the recreation of our members and friends. Our Summer Schools were also often held there. So the summer resort was open to visitors till that very day in 1939 when the war broke out between Finland and Russia. After the war we had to cede to Russia that part of Finland where "Merila" was situated. The company received Government stocks as indemnity, and every year it drew a fixed amount which was deposited in a bank.

In 1945 our Section received by donation about one-third of the share of



the company "Merila" and sent its representative to the company board. In the course of years the capital has grown so that the company began to think of acquiring a new estate. And this extraordinary meeting of our Section invested our representative at the company "Merila" with full powers to buy a new property. A suitable estate for this purpose had already been found in the middle of Western Finland on the shore of a lake ; it was bought on September 9th and the company hopes next summer to be able to open there for the members of the Theosophical Society and for their friends a guest house for summer rest and holidays.

The year began with a total membership of 708. During the year 20 members joined our Section. As against this 7 members resigned and 5 members died,

leaving a total of 716 members. There has thus been an increase of 8 members.

When thinking of our work we have often discussed the following questions : Have we understanding of the needs of the time in which we live ? And have we equipped ourselves to meet the special needs of the people whom we desire to serve ? Seeking the answers we feel that these questions have taken the form of a challenge which binds us to develop a sense of responsibility to the Theosophical Society as a whole and to our own Section especially, and at the same time to become aware of the new impulses of Theosophy. So we are trying to be a cell, as living as possible, in the Theosophical Society.

SIGNE ROSVALL,  
General Secretary.

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## RUSSIA

Section Dissolved

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## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

No Report

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## SOUTHERN AFRICA

This report covers a transition period for, at the last Convention held in Durban at Easter, a new National Executive was elected with Headquarters in Cape Town.

This was also the Golden Jubilee Convention for Durban, which arranged a special programme for their guests and also published a distinctive number of *The Link* with a picture of Durban on the

cover, and was responsible for the articles and editing. This year 1954 is the Golden Jubilee year for three Lodges—Durban, Pretoria and Cape Town. Pretoria also is celebrating the occasion with a special number of *The Link*, and Cape Town will bring out their Golden Jubilee number to synchronize with the Convention which is to be held in Cape Town next Easter.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. and Mrs. Stakesby-Lewis for all that they have done for the Section during the years that they were in office. Although the Headquarters are now some 1,500 miles from Salisbury we hear regularly from that quarter, and having these stalwart workers there we know that the Theosophical movement in Rhodesia is in safe and efficient hands. After the Durban Convention they took Miss Clara Codd back with them by car to Salisbury where she gave two well attended lectures, and another in Mazoe. I feel that there is a great future for the Theosophical Society in Rhodesia.

*Lodges and Centres.*—I am sorry to have to report that some of our small Lodges have closed. They were formed with a flash of enthusiasm, but often not having speakers or lecturers or even an old Theosophist to keep them going, they slowly lost interest and faded out. It was true that lecturers were sent to them from time to time, but distances are great and travelling expenses high, also most of our lecturers are busy people in regular employment.

On inquiry it was found that four Lodges, Queenstown, Pietermaritzburg, Vanderbijl Park and Vereeniging had not been meeting for some time, members had left or resigned and that these Lodges had died without even a last sacrament. Another small Lodge has also gone into cold storage and only meets when a lecturer is coming. More than ever does one realize the importance of forming a Lodge on a sure foundation with at least one old Theosophist to help it along. Also, it is imperative that Lodges have lecturers from time to time.

From this rather negative outlook I am pleased to say that we have started a new Centre in Grahamstown. They have seven members, four of whom are old Theosophists. They have hired a nice room in

a good locality and meet regularly. There is every possibility that we shall have a Lodge there in the near future.

*Lectures.*—Miss Clara Codd is still as brilliant as ever and has given a number of lectures to the Lodges in the Transvaal. She lives with Mrs. Suter in the Lodge flat at 14, Soper Road, Berea, Johannesburg. The big Lodges have their own band of lecturers who speak regularly on Sunday evenings or visit smaller Lodges in the outlying districts. We are all looking forward with enthusiasm to the coming visit of Mr. Geoffrey Hodson who will be at the Jubilee Convention in Cape Town next Easter.

*Institute of Theosophical Publicity.*—The original intention of the I. T. P. was to publish Theosophical literature in Afrikaans but it has been discovered, unfortunately to our cost, that our Afrikaans friends when they are interested in Theosophy, prefer to read it in English. The principal object of the I.T.P. has therefore failed to materialize and at the National Council meeting held in Durban during Convention it was decided to close down the I.T.P.

*The Link.*—With the change of the Executive Committee to Cape Town the editorship of *The Link* has been taken over by Mrs. Mitford-Barberton, who is also the Publicity Officer. Lodge News is a new feature being introduced, and we hope to have regular news from all Lodges, particularly the smaller ones. We like to keep in touch with them and know how they are progressing. By this means we shall get to know members better; they will realize that they have an equal share in *The Link* and are all members of the brotherhood.

*Eastern Province.*—Mrs. Barberton and I have recently been on a tour of the Eastern Province, driving 800 miles by car to East London and back. We visited

George, Port Elizabeth, Grahamstown and East London, staying over a day or two at each place, giving talks or public lectures both on the way up and on the return journey. Although these Lodges are small they are well established and at all places we had good gatherings.

Despite the fact that on paper we are now only 13 Lodges instead of 17, the general progress is good, and with our 600 odd members the Section is in a very sound position.

I. G. MITFORD-BARBERTON,  
*General Secretary.*

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## SCOTLAND

The report tells of a year of quiet but steady work, showing little change, on the whole, from last year. There has been a good deal of illness, particularly in the earlier part of the year, and this adversely affected attendances to some extent; but all the usual activities—Public Lectures, Members' Meetings, Study Groups, Social Gatherings and the observance of Red Letter Days—have been carried on as usual, and the position is now more or less back to normal. The general position, including the membership, remains practically unchanged.

A detailed report of the work of the various Lodges throughout the Section tells the same story of a quiet but steady carrying on of the work, though in some cases the burden tends to fall increasingly on the shoulders of a faithful and devoted minority. With the exception of three welcome visits from lecturers belonging to the English Section, the work has been carried on by our own lecturers and students, who give their services willingly and enthusiastically. The General Secretary has visited all three Districts of the Section, in some cases

more than once, and has also taken several lecturing tours in the English Section, in addition to speaking to other organizations. Several other members also have had the opportunity of undertaking this useful and rewarding kind of work. Thanks are due not only to the prominent figures but also to the inconspicuous but faithful and devoted workers behind the scenes, without whose help the work of the Section could not be kept going.

The Annual Convention was held this year at the Headquarters in Edinburgh on June 12th and 13th and, with Mrs. Josephine Ransom as guest of honor, a successful and inspiring Convention was assured.

The Library has continued its very valuable work on an extensive scale. Gift parcels are still being sent periodically to a needy family in the Near East with Theosophical connections.

The Section has also contributed during the year to the various Adyar funds, and its own financial condition is reasonably satisfactory.

EDWARD GALL,  
*General Secretary.*

## SWITZERLAND

*Membership.*—The Swiss Section has now 264 members, 11 Lodges and 6 Centres. This represents an increase of 6 members and a decrease of one Lodge which was transformed into a Centre but which we hope will soon be a Lodge again.

*General Assembly.*—The general Assembly of the Swiss Section took place at Lausanne, at which all the Lodges and Centres were represented. The atmosphere was very enthusiastic and fraternal.

*The Treasurer.*—Mr. Johann Klasi, our Treasurer for many years, has resigned, and Mr. Reichenbach has been appointed to this post. The Section expressed to Mr. Klasi its deep gratitude for all that he had done, and offered its good wishes for the future.

*The Public Work* continues as in the past, with the co-operation of the following members who gave at Headquarters one or more lectures : Mrs. Sulzberger, Mrs. Rynkewich, Mrs. Schneider, Mrs. Roquette, Mr. Albert Sassi, Mr. Reisch, Mr. Decosterd, Mr. Georges and Mr. Claude Tripet. In German Switzerland, Mr. Hanspeter Wyss continues to give lectures in Basle, Bern and other places.

*Aid to the Refugees.*—Mme. A. de Berg is doing splendid work on behalf of the refugees of the Camp of Kolokyntou, in Greece. This work has now ramifications in many countries, thanks to the co-operation of many General Secretaries, the European Federation, and others. I would like to mention especially Mr. Gottraux, a Swiss member at present in Greece, and the General Secretary of the Greek Section, for their devotion to this work.

*Magazines.*—As in the past, the German-speaking members continue to receive *Adyar*, the magazine printed in Austria,

and, since the beginning of 1954, the French-speaking members have received *Clarte*, the Belgo-Swiss magazine, both published under the auspices of the European Federation.

*Summer Schools.*—Many members participated either in the French Summer School at Savosa, or in the German Summer School at Pichl in Austria, both held under the auspices of the European Federation. The Summer School at Savosa was organized by the Swiss Section and was most successful. Members from France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, England, Viet-Nam and Switzerland were present.

*Lodges.*—The activity of the Lodges continues as usual.

*The Visit of the President.*—The President of the Society, Mr. N. Sri Ram, his wife Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram, and his Secretary Miss Elithe Nisewanger, paid us a short visit at Geneva on October 1st. Mr. Sri Ram took this opportunity to give us a very inspiring talk on the work done by Mrs. A. Besant. We had also the pleasure of having at Geneva for some days a visit from Srimati Padmini, the niece of Mr. Sri Ram, as well as visits by members from France, New Zealand and other places.

*Conclusion.*—As I declined re-election as General Secretary, the General Council of the Section appointed as from January 1st, 1955, Mrs. Claire Wyss, of Basle.

I take this opportunity to thank heartily all the members of my Council and of the Section for the co-operation they gave me during my mandate, and I offer my best wishes to the new General Secretary and to the Section for their work.

RACHEL TRIPET,  
General Secretary.



## BELGIUM

We had, this year, a most happy Convention on June 27th. It coincided with the 80th birthday of our beloved Honorary General Secretary, Monsieur Gaston Polak, who for 54 years has devoted his whole time to the Theosophical Society. Born on June 27th, 1874, he entered the Society in 1899 at 25 years of age. He was admitted in Hungary, where he had a situation as civil engineer. He worked for several years under the guidance of Mrs. Cooper-Oakley. Very soon after his arrival in Belgium, he was elected General Secretary (1913) and occupied the post for 25 years. The title of Honorary General Secretary was especially created for him in grateful remembrance of his untiring services. M. Polak, as is well known, is a man of knowledge in all its depths and simplicity, a magnificent lecturer and the most brilliant member in our Section. We offered him flowers and a fine radio set. Messages of congratulation came for him from the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe, Mr. J. E. van Dissel, and other friends.

*Membership.*—Increase : 12 members. We were 321 in 1953. We are now 333. We had 29 admissions, but because of the loss of 17 members by passing over, resignation, lapsing and one member transferred to Brazil we can only claim an increase of 12 members.

*Lodges.*—11 in number as last year : 6 in Brussels, 3 in Antwerp, 1 in Liege and 1 in Ghent. A group in Natoye (Province de Namur) is growing steadily and does very good work. But because of the difficulties coming from the strong Roman Catholic influence in the country, and specially in the small centres of the provinces, we cannot as yet found a Lodge in Natoye.

*Lectures.*—Attendance varies between 60 and 70 people, each Saturday, at our

public lectures. The subjects are varied and interesting. We gave 31 public lectures, 6 Socials with tea to members and sympathizers, and 3 Question and Answer Meetings. We commemorated also the usual Theosophical festivals. The young people also had a magnificent Christmas feast, with a radiophonic play. An elementary Theosophical course in 16 lessons has been held every fortnight. So, without counting the regular Lodge meetings, we had 75 meetings during the Theosophical year.

*Correspondence Course.*—The Correspondence Course produced by a group of students in London and edited by Mrs. Adelaide Gardner has been translated into French, and 29 members studied it, including one in Switzerland, one in Spain and one in the Congo.

*Youth Group.*—A Youth Group has just been started and meets once a month at the home of the General Secretary.

*Library and Bookshop.*—Both these are working very well. We were able this year to roneotype *Intuition et Amour* by M. G. Polak, *Le Kali Yuga* by Serge Brisys, and three lectures on Theosophy by M. Hiernaux ; also to print a propaganda card " Six Good reasons for studying Theosophy ". The Bookshop has customers in far-away little provincial towns. Antwerp Lodge has published in French and Flemish two excellent propaganda booklets on *Thought-Power* and *Reincarnation*.

*Clarte* is a quarterly regional review in French for the Swiss and Belgian Sections. In October we shall print our 4th number. The beginning is always difficult, but we hope to succeed and answer by it a very real need for a French-speaking regional bulletin.

*Work for the Refugees.*—After the appeal made by Mme. Ariane de Berg in



France, Holland and Belgium, we started wholeheartedly the work for the Kolo-kynthou Camp in Greece. A Committee was formed in Ghent and food, clothes, rugs and soap have been sent to Greece. A sum of 11,000 frs. belges was sent to the High Commissioner for Belgium (U.N.) for direct needs. The Lodge Annie Besant, in Liege sends monthly sums for the refugees, and one of our members has adopted two families and sends them each month a parcel containing food. Correspondence is exchanged between the General Secretary and refugees, who are happy and grateful for what they call "a human contact and warmth" which they need so very much also.

*Visit of the President Mr. Sri Ram in Brussels.*—The President, with his wife, Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram and his secretary, Miss Elithe Nisewanger, were the guests of the Belgian Section from September 27th to 30th. Mr. Sri Ram addressed a members' meeting on "What Theosophists Should Learn," and gave a lecture to the public on "The Present World Crisis". He also met the group of Young Theosophists and answered their many questions. Members and public alike were charmed with the lofty ideals, the breadth of vision and the subtle lucidity of mind displayed by the President.

The work in Belgium is on the increase, but certainly we want to do better for next year.

SERGE BRISY,  
General Secretary.

## INDONESIA

*Membership.*—At the end of September 1953 the number of members of the Indonesian Section was 599. During the year under review 104 new members were registered, so that on September 30th, 1954 the Section had 703 members. The number of Lodges increased from 17 to 18, one new Lodge having been formed, namely, the Purnomo Sidi Lodge at Batu, (Malang). The number of Centres is 3.

*Activities of the Section.*—During the year the Lodges worked very well. Regular public Theosophical lectures and courses have been given throughout the year by all Lodges and Centres. The lectures are given in Indonesian, Javanese and Dutch. As General Secretary I have made visits to most of the Lodges. Adyar Day, White Lotus Day and the Wesak Festival were fittingly celebrated.

We are at work on the foundation of a Theosophical Publishing House and the

Indonesian Theosophical Real Property Funds. The latter was established six months ago and has already begun its activities.

In April 1954 the Section held its Annual Meeting in Djakarta lasting four days. At that meeting, among others, four members of the Section's Board were due to retire. They were the President, Br. Soemardjo, the Secretary, Br. Soebroto, the Treasurer, Br. H. J. van Marle, and one member, Br. Tan Bing Oe. Br. Soemardjo was re-elected President. Br. Soebroto was re-elected too, not as Secretary, but as an ordinary member. Br. H. J. van Marle was replaced as Treasurer by Br. R. Mochamad Dahlan, and Br. Tan Bing Oe was re-elected. In the place of Br. Soebroto, Br. Reksosiswoio was elected first secretary, and he is assisted by Br. Derun as second secretary. The other members of the Board, in total amounting to 15 members, are the same as last year.

They are Br. A. H. van Brakel, M. Scipio, Soegarda Poerbakawatja, Drs. Khu Su Kiam, S. Satyadarma, Ong Su An, S. Mangunkawatja, Kusumodihardjo and Sister M. A. van der Pol.

In August 1954 Br. A. H. van Brakel went to the Netherlands and was replaced on the Board by Br. Supadyo.

*The Visit of the President of the Theosophical Society.*—An important event of the Indonesian Section was the visit to Indonesia of Mr. N. Sri Ram, President of the Theosophical Society, from October 18 to 22, 1953. It was a great honor for the Section to receive him. He visited the Lodges in Djakarta, Bandung, Semarang and Borobudur, where he was received with great enthusiasm by all members. Accompanied by the members of the Lodges of Central and East Java he visited Tjandi Borobudur, and when the party reached the top, a medi-

tation was held together. In the Lodges which he visited he gave an address to members, to others interested and Young Theosophists. What he gave to members in Indonesia was very important. It brought a certain revival in the ranks of the Theosophical movement in Indonesia. It is a matter of fact that the Indonesian Section is improving slowly but surely from that time.

*The Section's Magazine.*—The Indonesian Section has a monthly magazine named *Madjalah P.T.T.I.*, which is distributed to members and interested people throughout Indonesia. Br. Reksosiswoio, our first secretary, has done most of the work and has given the greatest contribution, morally as well as materially, to the issue of this magazine up to now.

SOEMARDJO,  
General Secretary.

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## BURMA

The year under report was marked by two outstanding events. The first was the visit to Rangoon of Mr. N. Sri Ram, the International President of the Society. He arrived on the last day of the Lighting Festival in October 1953, and during the three days we had the privilege of having him with us he presided over the Annual Section Convention. Besides the Convention Lecture on "The Significance of Our Times," he delivered a Public Lecture on "Nirvana and the Law," with U Chan Htoon, Attorney-General of Burma and Secretary of the Union Buddha Sasana Council, in the chair. The Council, which is constituted by an Act of Parliament as a Central Organization to which Buddhist Organizations all over the country are affiliated, is the instrument through which the Government of the

country hopes to preserve, to strengthen and to purify the Buddhist faith to which the vast majority of the people belong. On behalf of the various Buddhist organizations of Burma, U Chan Htoon presented to the President a Buddhist Flag to be taken to Adyar in appreciation of the noble endeavors of our President-Founder Col. Olcott for the revival of Buddhism. Mr. Sri Ram's programme in Rangoon included a "Tea" with His Excellency the President of the Union of Burma, Dr. Ba U.

The second outstanding event of the year was the Chattah Sangayana (the Sixth Great Buddhist Council) which opened on Wesak Day, 1954, at the Maha Pasana Guha, in Rangoon, and which will last for two years till Wesak Day 1956. The present Sangayana, under

the Patronage of His Excellency the President of the Union of Burma, was conducted by 2,500 Bhikkhus from all parts of Burma, India, Thailand, Ceylon, Indonesia, Cambodia, Laos, Nepal, Pakistan and other countries and attended by many more thousands of Bhikkhus and laymen from all over the world. Two thousand copies of the pamphlet *The Two Dhammas—Within Us and Without Us* by Mr. C. Jinarajadasa and ten thousand copies of its translation into Burmese were printed and distributed on the occasion of the opening of the Sangayana, to stress the need for the Lord's precepts to be lived and not merely preached or repeated.

As befits the Government of a secular State, the Union Government's support has not been confined to Buddhism. Grants have been made to central organizations of all the main religions in the State. The Society can help much in providing material for text books for religious instruction which are still to be approved under the new Scheme.

*Olcott Lodge, Rangoon.*—As usual the main centre of Theosophical activities in Burma was the Olcott Lodge, Rangoon, where regular Sunday morning lectures and Wednesday evening study classes were held. A few Theosophical books were added to the Lodge Library. The Reading Room continued to receive all leading Theosophical journals from all Sections of the Society, including *The Theosophist*. Increased sales were registered by the Book Depot, Krishnaji's writings being particularly in good demand. The Lodge building was renovated during the year at a cost of about Rs. 3,000. The Lodge celebrated Founders' Day, White Lotus Day, Adyar Day and the birthdays of the Presidents of the Society.

*Youth Lodge, Rangoon.*—As usual the members of the Youth Lodge heartily

co-operated with the elder Lodge in all Theosophical functions in Rangoon.

*Lotus Lodge, Mandalay.*—As the Lodge has not yet been able to get possession of its own building, Theosophical classes were held regularly in a member's house. Members have also taken keen interest in "The English Speakers' Club" and in propaganda for temperance and vegetarianism. Theosophical and Vegetarian literature have been distributed on a wide scale.

*Blavatsky Lodge, Maymyo.*—Classes for study of Theosophical books were held regularly. Mg Mg Hmin, one of our active workers, accompanied the Ven'ble U Lawkanatha in his Dhamma Duta tour, to all parts of the country, interpreting the sermons delivered by the Sayadaw. The sermons were on Buddhism, Vegetarianism and moral uplift.

*Burma Humanitarian League.*—Members of the Rangoon Lodges took an active part in the Burma Humanitarian League. As a result of its appeal to Government, slaughter-houses throughout the country were closed on important religious and national days as well as on the World Day for Animals—in all for 26 days. Animal sacrifices were stopped completely in the Durga Bari Temple of the Bengalese and in several Hindu Temples of the Tamils. Thousands of pledges for abstinence from flesh were received from Buddhists all over the country.

*Burma Educational Trust.*—The co-educational School run by the Trust is steadily gaining in strength. There are two sections in the School, Burmese and Tamil. "Universal Invocation" is recited daily at the Assembly Hall before the commencement of the classes.

*Section Office.*—The Section Office has been brought up to date. A request has come from up-country members to reprint

the *Two Dhammas* in Burmese and English together. This will be done as soon as funds are available. It is also proposed to print a pamphlet giving information to inquirers on the Objects of the Theosophical Society.

*Membership.*—There were 11 new admissions and 19 lapses during the year. The total strength at present is 71.

More vigorous propaganda is required to bring home the truths of Theosophy to Buddhists, but this can be done only if the Section has funds. An appeal is made to all members to give liberal donations for printing literature in Burmese.

PO LAT,  
General Secretary.

## AUSTRIA

The Theosophical Society in Austria consisted at the end of July 1954 of 303 members, divided among 13 Lodges, situated in four towns: Vienna, Graz, Bruck a.d.M., and Linz a.d.Donau.

In all four places the work was carried on regularly, publicly as well as inside the Lodges. In spite of the joining of 11 members we lost 25 by resignation, death, lapsing and one emigrating to the United States, so that a decrease of 14 members took place.

Speakers from Vienna and Graz visited Vienna, Graz, Bruck, Linz, and two Lodges in Switzerland: Zurich and Basle.

The Theosophical Publishing House in Graz published in the autumn of 1953 another new book in German: *Die Stimme der Stille*, the translation by Dr. Norbert Lauppert of *The Voice of the Silence*.

As arranged at Basle in April last by the Executive Committee of the German Region of the Theosophical Society in Europe, the second German Regional Summer School took place from September 5th to 11th, 1954, at Pichl in Austria, as last year.

The keynote for the School this year was: "The Work of Theosophy in the World Today". It was split up into a number of subjects: "Theosophy and the Theosophical Society"; "How does a Theoso-

phist advocate the three Objects of the Society in the modern world?"; "The Theosophist as a Pioneer of Health"; "The Theosophist as Uniter and Spiritualizer in Culture"; "Renewal of the Way of Life through Art". There was also a symposium on the topic: "Woman's Task as Theosophist in the Modern World" to which several ladies from Switzerland and Austria contributed.

One fine day an excursion was made by railway, car and walking to the mountains of the "Niedere Tauern," near the little town of Radstadt.

The evenings were given up to various entertainments: a series of colored lantern-slides, with accompanying lecture; the playing of records of Indian temple songs; a concert by a choir of Austrian singers; and an occasion when two artists, a violinist and a pianist, delighted the members of the School with their performance.

At the closing there was this year, as last year, a series of splendid dances performed by a Salzbourger "Trachten-gruppe," to the accompaniment of their popular musical instruments, zither, hackbret and guitar.

The German Summer School was attended by about 60 members, of whom 17 came from Switzerland, Germany,



the Netherlands and Yugoslavia. It was agreed that the organization of Summer Schools is probably one of the best ways of bringing about contact between mem-

bers and the public, thus expanding Theosophy by contact and action.

FRITZ SCHLEIFER,  
General Secretary.

## NORWAY

The Norwegian Section has carried on its work as usual. It now has 7 Lodges and a membership of 159. The Lodges have held regular meetings and interesting topics have been studied. During the summer no regular meetings were held but work was taken up again in September. In Oslo the three Lodges are working with definite programmes: *Theosophia* Lodge has as its main study Mme. Blavatsky's *Key to Theosophy*; *Adyar* Lodge is carrying on a lecture course on Theosophy and Christianity, while the *United Lodges* of Oslo adopts a varied programme. In Stavanger Mr. Harald Hoseth has started a study group of 10-12 persons, and it is possible that on the basis of this study group and its work another Lodge may be started in that city. One of our difficulties is that so few new members have been enrolled during the past few years; another is that they are seldom able to receive visits from Section Headquarters or visiting foreign members. However, we hope these conditions will soon change for the better. An attempt is being made to link the members more closely together through our Theosophical journal *Norsk Teosofisk Tidsskrift*.

We were fortunate to receive a visit in the spring from Mr. John Coats who gave public lectures and members' talks in Oslo, Trondheim and Bergen, and also showed his beautiful colored lantern slides of India and Mexico. From all the places he visited I have received most enthusiastic reports showing that he has

won many friends wherever he has been. We are very grateful to him for his splendid manifestation of the true Theosophical spirit of service and hope to have him with us again shortly.

We were also visited by Mr. Sigfrid Fjellander of Sweden in May, at the invitation of the *Adyar* Lodge in Oslo. He gave a beautiful and inspiring talk on White Lotus Day on "Discipleship," and also a public lecture on "Why Theosophy?"

The outstanding event in our work this autumn was the visit of Mr. Otto Viking from Denmark. His lectures were well attended, and the members received a strong stimulus through his inspiring words.

Our national Convention was held on May 29th and 30th, when Mr. Erling Havrevold was elected as the new General Secretary.

This year the Scandinavian Summer School was held at Norefjell, in Norway, at the beginning of July. It was immediately preceded by the Annual Meeting of the Council of the European Federation, and brought a number of distinguished Theosophists to our country, including Mr. J. E. van Dissel, the General Secretary of the European Federation, and General Secretaries from different European Sections. Altogether there was an attendance of 103, and some interesting lectures were given by well-known Theosophists from abroad as well as by General Secretaries of the



Scandinavian Sections, dealing with problems of Science, Psychology and Theosophical work in the Federation. The Summer School was a big event in our

Theosophical activities and added new life to our Section.

ERLING HAVREVOLD,  
*General Secretary.*

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## EGYPT

No Report

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## DENMARK

The past year has been characterized by an increasing Theosophical activity, especially in Copenhagen. A new Lodge, called "The Open Way," has been formed in Copenhagen. This Lodge has now 25 members. Mr. Otto Viking is its leader, and it is especially through his activity that the Lodge was formed.

Regular Lodge meetings are held in almost all Lodges. No Lodge is stagnating. Public lectures have been given in Aalborg, Aarhus and Copenhagen.

During the year the Section received a visit from Mr. John Coats, who gave lectures in almost all the Lodges, as well as public lectures. Further, Mr. Coats showed some beautiful slides of many countries. The members were very much delighted both by his lectures and by his pictures.

The annual Convention was held at Aarhus on May 15th and 16th. It was very successful and inspiring. The Aarhus Lodge provided a fine frame for the Convention. The number of members then totalled 341, an increase of

25 new members, but at the time of the Convention the new Lodge at Copenhagen had not yet been formed, so that the number of members now is higher than then.

Last summer in the last days of June and the first days of July a Scandinavian Summer School was held at Norefjell in Norway. It was attended by 100 members from Scandinavia, Finland, England and Holland. During the session the European Federation held its annual Council Meeting, which brought the President of the Federation, Mr. J. E. van Dissel, the General Secretary of the English Section, Mr. Groves, Mrs. Gardner, Mr. John Coats, the General Secretary of the Netherlands Section and several others outside Scandinavia to Norefjell. Some valuable lectures were delivered.

The President of the Odense Lodge, Mr. Uller, made a donation of 2,000 Kr. to the Section, to be used for the translation and printing of Theosophical books.

J. H. MOLLER,  
*General Secretary.*

## IRELAND

Our Annual Convention was held from June 25th to 27th 1954, at our Headquarters in Dublin. It was, I think, quite outstanding for the spirit of harmony and friendliness which prevailed. Everyone seemed happy and interested, and the attendance was very good. We were happy to welcome nearly all the members from Cork Lodge and Mrs. Bligh from Kilkenny, also four members from Belfast Lodge, and all the Dublin Lodges were well represented. Our guest speaker was Mrs. Doris Groves, who gave us of her best; her addresses to members and her public lecture on Sunday afternoon were all very much appreciated. The keynote of Convention was "There is no greater purpose in life than to serve". On Sunday lunch and tea were given at Headquarters, and a fitting end to a memorable Convention was an exhibition of pictures by color projection entitled "The Spirit of Beauty".

A full programme has been carried out during the year, which has been a very eventful one. Its main achievement was the moving of our Headquarters from S. Frederick Street to these new and larger premises at 31 Pembroke Road, and this was accomplished in time for the opening of the 1953 Autumn session.

It was a privilege and a great stimulus to the work to have a visit from our President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, in March 1954, for the dedication of our Headquarters. The day he spent with the members here will long be remembered as a most inspiring and happy one. He addressed us and dedicated the Headquarters, after which there was supper, and finally a Question and Answer meeting. On the previous night the room was filled to capacity for his public lecture, entitled, "Spiritual Living, What is It?"

Other visitors who visited and worked for us during the year were Mr. John Coats, Capt. Muirson Blake, Mr. C. R. Groves, Mrs. Walker, Miss Grace Blanch and Dr. Hugh Shearman. Added to these were many members of the Dublin Lodges.

At the annual Business Meeting I was nominated as General Secretary and Mr. Pielou as National Treasurer.

The members' monthly meeting and the study group have both been well attended, and there was also a very beautiful meeting on White Lotus Day which was commemorated in the usual manner.

The Librarian, Mrs. Gregg, and her assistant, Mr. Johnston, are to be congratulated on the hard work they have done in the library in re-cataloguing many of the books. Sales from our book table have been satisfactory and we have distributed a great many leaflets.

The Section Magazine *Theosophy in Ireland* continues to be very much appreciated, but it is still a heavy burden on our expenses.

I had the privilege of representing Ireland at the European Congress in Holland, and also at the Convention of the English Section. I have also visited Cork twice during the year.

In conclusion my hope is that our Section may grow and our Lodges increase. Let every member realize that we have something wonderful to tell the world, which if understood would make the world a different place, a place of peace and happiness. We as members must try to learn and understand so that even in our small way we can pass on these great truths to others. And may we work with an ever deepening realization of the meaning of the Brotherhood of Man.

EVELYN O. HORNIDGE,  
General Secretary.

## MEXICO

This Section is almost in the same condition as last year. However, an increase of 19 new members has been this year's fruit. We reckon 25 active Lodges, 6 Centres and 503 active members. Three new Lodges were formed during the year, while three were dissolved.

Our last Convention was held at the Port of Veracruz on December 29th and 30th, 1953, when the General Secretary was unanimously re-elected. It was a gathering full of life and youth. Some 30 boys and girls were present, singing the Theosophical hymn, playing musical instruments and enacting autochthonous popular dances.

Members of the *Luz de Occidente* Lodge at Tijuana, Lower California, having purchased a tract of land in order to build the Lodge's own house, its cornerstone was laid on November 1st, 1953, all the members as well as the president of the *Annie Besant* Lodge of San Diego, California, being present. Photographs and a very artistic parchment were buried inside the first stone.

We celebrated our classic festival meetings: Adyar Day, White Lotus Day, and Founders' Day. The beautiful Ritual of the Mystic Star was regularly performed at Headquarters every other Sunday, and a series of 14 public lectures took place here weekly during the spring and summer.

At our Theosophical Colony "Adyar," the small rural free school for the "panchamas" of the district, started privately by Sister Prof. Aura L. Chagoya (as Col. Olcott did his in 1894), has continued to impart free primary education to some 25 pupils.

The General Secretary in the course of the year visited several cities in the interior, lecturing at Zitacuaro, Pachuca and Orizaba. He has been highly honored by the Buddha Sasana Council and the Government of the Union of Burma by an invitation to attend, in his capacity as Buddhist, the Third World Fellowship of Buddhists Conference to be held in Rangoon on December 3rd, 1954. To his regret, it is not possible for him to go to Burma at present.

*Propaganda.*—As usual this branch of our work has persistently been fostered all through the year. Besides the Sectional Bulletin and Theosophical Pamphlets, 48,000 copies of *Dharma*, a six-page leaflet popularizing the Cosmogony of *The Secret Doctrine* were freely distributed to 8,000 permanent readers.

Our local *Mercurio* Lodge has published a fine 250-page book with four "Gems" by C. Jinarajadasa, to commemorate the first anniversary of his passing.

Donations of \$ 51.70 for the A. B. C. Fund and \$ 34.00 for the Adyar Day Fund were collected from the Mexican members.

Our International President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, paid a short five-day visit to Mexico City. Our five local Lodges were delighted to welcome him on July 5th. He delivered three public lectures and two specially for members of the Society, followed by questions and answers. Extracts of his lectures are being inserted in our Bulletin for the benefit of our members who could not get to this city. Certainly, this was the main event of the year.

ADOLFO DE LA PENA GIL,  
General Secretary.

## CANADA

My report on the activities of the Canadian Section calls for more detailed description than heretofore because of certain events that have enlightened the year's work. I must explain first that our financial year closes in June and therefore does not coincide with the Adyar year ending in September.

Our membership, for instance, showed a deficit in June which had been considerably reduced by September through members in arrears paying their belated dues, so that our total remains about the same as last year. The deaths number thirteen and new members fourteen but taking September into the picture we have several more. Our outside speakers this year have as usual included Mr. Ernest Wood and Dr. Alvin Kuhn as well as several others. We were very happy to have a visit from our President Mr. N. Sri Ram, which was comparable to "a shot in the arm," for his presence and personality made him a most welcome and delightful visitor endearing him to the hearts of all. We were especially impressed by his vision and broad outlook, and felt that Adyar for once in a long while has been drawn closer in the bonds of loyalty and leadership. I personally met him again, this time with his charming consort, at "Olcott," Wheaton, at the American Convention. Here again I felt that "oneship" in friendliness and outlook that makes me feel sure Canada will work and aspire in closer co-operation for the Cause.

For the first time in the ten years of my holding office I have been enabled to

visit the Lodges in the far West some two thousand miles away. This was brought about by the generosity of the members there and I am deeply beholden to them for the wonderful opportunity. Travelling in Super-Constellations I made a lightning visit to Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton, Victoria and Vancouver. The visit lasted in all ten days, during which I addressed meetings, public and otherwise, eight nights in succession. I was received with the greatest friendliness and enthusiasm, not only by our own members but by many from the Canadian Federation who attended the meetings, and I feel that my presence has been an incentive to greater efforts and a clearer understanding of the work of the Society in Canada.

I also feel that through this tour there is a great possibility of resuscitating two of our defunct Lodges. If this proves so, then my visit will indeed have been worthwhile. It has been my impression that the world, and this includes Lodges in this Section, is hungry for a new dispensation, even though it be from ourselves working with renewed ardour and earnestness throughout our own domain, bringing light, new ideas and freshness to a world weary of war and national controversies. The drought has been terrible, but we have a wonderful soil to work upon; let us see that the opportunity is not wasted, for the time is ripe and we must be up and doing. I feel sure the Canadian Section will do its share.

E. L. THOMSON,  
General Secretary.

## ARGENTINA

No Report



## CHILE

Although our modest work may have little significance for General Headquarters and the rest of the Sections, due to the small number of members that go to make up the Section, nevertheless the value of the said work remains, in the mutual strength of our leaders in arousing in the spirit of our members the urgent necessity of living the Theosophical life. We are of opinion that something important is lacking in Theosophical instruction if it does not result in a constant pre-occupation in our daily lives, leading us to bring greater dignity and a more brotherly spirit into all our daily activities.

We have to emphasize the importance of the work of the Lodges which, through their members, develop individual efforts to extend Theosophy by practical service, works of human solidarity and the realization of brotherhood.

The Chilean Section has, further, maintained its administrative work, dedicating the major part of its strength to the study of Theosophy. In this way we seek to make Theosophy all that is necessary to nourish the spirit, without need to have recourse to other institutions or philosophical schools which are liable to confuse the student.

We must also express our satisfaction at the outcome of the negotiations for restoring to the Chilean Section its property in Santiago, which had been illegally occupied by a man who was enjoying the use of it.

The rehabilitation of Lodge "Arun-dhati" in Santiago, has been completed, with the co-operation of several new members.

The study of Theosophy in Valparaiso is conducted by the General Secretary of the Section, and in Santiago by Bro. Teodoro Belmar S., Vice-President of the Section. The unity of the Lodges and of the members of the Section generally is obtained by means of an interchange of meetings between Santiago and Valparaiso, and by the desire of all to realize the ideal of brotherhood.

During the year under review, 16 new members have joined and 9 have resigned. Also there occurred the death of Bro. Heriberto Sonderburg, the last of the founders of Lodge "Lob-Nor" and a collaborator in the formation of the Chilean Section. With these membership changes, there remains a balance of 10 new co-operators. Thus the Chilean Section at the present moment consists of 145 members, distributed in 10 Lodges.

The General Secretary has paid occasional visits to Santiago Lodges and has also visited Lodge "Destellos," at Antofagasta, but has not been able to visit often other Lodges which are far distant from Valparaiso his place of residence.

At different dates we have received visits from Bros. Salim Alfredo Whebe and Moises Sevilla M. of Argentina, and also from Bro. Goulart Penteado of Brazil.

LUIS TAPIA ALARCON,  
General Secretary.

## BRAZIL

*Membership.*—We regret to have to record that eight Lodges have been dissolved during the year. Partly owing to this the membership has dropped by 89, making a present total of 643 active members. In many Lodges, however, the work has continued actively, and members have made every effort to spread the teachings of the Divine Wisdom. Fraternal meetings of the Lodges in Sao Paulo are held each month and are attended by a large number of people, members of our Society and of other spiritual movements.

*The Young Theosophists* continue their activities very efficiently. They hold regular meetings for study and discussion, attracting a number of interested people. They also organize excursions and picnics, which are much enjoyed. We hope that from this movement will come the future leaders and workers for our Society and in the cause of Theosophy.

During the year the Vice-President of the Brazilian Section, Sr. Virgilio Goulart Penteado, visited Argentina and Chile, and made many fraternal contacts with our members in those countries.

*Our own Headquarters.*—In spite of the enthusiasm shown by members for the project of building our own Headquarters in Sao Paulo, it has not been possible to proceed with the building owing to difficulties concerning the site. It may be necessary to sell the land we have and buy another plot in some other locality.

*Propaganda.*—The Propaganda Department has continued its work as actively as possible. A Correspondence Service has been set up with all Lodges. Those interested are sent copies of Theosophical books and pamphlets. Six thousand copies of the Portuguese translation of *To Those Who Mourn* have been printed and are sent to persons who have lost their loved ones. Thus they receive comfort and a knowledge of the truth which enlightens and relieves their distress.

Public lectures have been recommenced in Sao Paulo with a revised programme and receive an enthusiastic response.

*The National Convention.*—This is planned to take place this year, in Sao Paulo in December 1954. It will coincide with the fourth centenary of the Foundation of the City of Sao Paulo, and it is hoped that this will attract a large gathering of members who will not only be able to take part in the Theosophical Convention but to take advantage of the National celebration.

*O Teosofista.*—Thanks to those who have assisted by work and donations the magazine has a credit balance. It continues to be issued regularly every two months.

The General Secretary offers his thanks to all those who have helped in so many of the varied activities of the Society.

ARMANDO SALES,  
General Secretary.

## BULGARIA

No Report

## ICELAND

We now have three Lodges in Reykjavik and five outside the town. The Lodges in Reykjavik meet regularly once a week, but the other Lodges once a month during the winter. The attendance is fairly good.

During this last period of work there has been great activity within the Society. The Headquarters Hall has been painted inside and some repairs have been done. The Order of Service has been very active in giving entertainments and collecting money. As usual, I conducted a study group, "The Black Rose".

The magazine of the Society, *Gangleri*, has been issued twice during the year, as usual.

The Society has come to an arrangement with the State about a strip of land in the neighborhood of Reykjavik. It is our dream to erect there a building in the future, but first we shall try to cultivate the land, for it is barren.

Mr. Edwin C. Bolt held his Summer School, which was attended by about 30-35 people.

If I might be allowed to characterize the work of the Society in Iceland at present I would say that it is run on the 3rd Ray, and in Reykjavik also on the 4th and 7th. And of course we do not neglect altogether the 2nd Ray.

We have 23 new members this year, the net increase being 18. The membership now stands at 305, including unattached members.

At the annual Convention held on October 2nd I had the great honor of being re-elected General Secretary for the 19th time. The Assistant General Secretary does not have to be elected by vote, because he was elected by my good karma. De facto he is my wife!

GRETAR FELS,  
*General Secretary.*

## SPAIN

No Report

## PORTUGAL

Covering the period of activities from December 1953 to November 1954, we give the following facts: The Lodges before existent—Isis, Horus, Visconde Figanieri, Annie Besant, Pitagoras, Lotus Branco and Sao Paulo, all of them in Lisbon; Alcyone, at Matozinhos; Krishnamurti, at Ponte de Lima; Dharma, at Oporto, have continued their normal work. Lodge Koot Hoomi in Lisbon has not yet recovered its activities because of some difficulties of its members, but it is not extinguished and

its president is endeavoring to have regular meetings next year. In some provincial towns there are little groups for study, but they have not yet the requisite number of members to form the respective Lodges. The situation of the other Lodges is more or less the same as last year, and some of them have many members who work with the greatest enthusiasm.

Concerning the membership of the Portuguese Section of the Theosophical Society, we report the following: During

the term concerned 8 members resigned and 4 died. We have now 251 members, compared with 234 in 1953.

We celebrated this year, as usual, the great Theosophical festivals, such as Adyar Day, White Lotus Day and so on.

We hold general meetings every fortnight to allow all members a more intimate contact with the Theosophical teachings—some under the form of a symposium, in

addition to lectures, in order to increase the knowledge of comparative religion and philosophy.

As to the financial situation, the life of the Society goes on with great difficulties, which are increased by the special social conditions in the Portuguese nation.

FELIX BERMUDEZ,  
*General Secretary.*

## WALES

*Membership.*—During the year fourteen new members were admitted, three old members rejoined and four were transferred to Wales from other Sections. Four members resigned, four died, two lapsed and one was transferred to France. Thus there were twenty-one gains and eleven losses. The total membership on 30th September 1954, was 188 as compared with 178 in 1953—a gain of ten.

*The Annual Convention.*—This was held in Cardiff in May. Mr. van Dissel, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe, and Mrs. Elmore were our guests. Mr. van Dissel's visit was greatly appreciated and it brought the Section closer to the work in Europe. Mrs. Elmore gave the Convention public lecture. White Lotus Day was celebrated during the Convention.

*The Visit of our President,* Mr. N. Sri Ram, from March 12th to 14th was the great event of the year. He gave two public lectures which were very well attended. At a social gathering for members and friends he spoke about Adyar and he addressed a meeting of members on "Spiritual Living—What is it?" Mr. Sri Ram was received by the Lord Mayor (or rather by his deputy in his absence) at the Cardiff City Hall

on the Saturday morning. Mr. and Mrs. Curt Berg of Sweden and members from Bristol joined us during the weekend, which was a very happy and inspiring one.

*Other Visitors* to the Section during the year included Dr. Jacques de Marquette (Tangier), Mr. J. J. van Ginkel (S. Africa), and Mr. C. R. Groves, Mr. J. Coats, Mrs. E. A. Gardner, Mrs. Lavender Berry, Mrs. Stephenson Howell, Col. Chodkiewicz and several other members from the English Section. We are very grateful for their help.

*Lodges.*—Cardiff Lodge has had a very successful year. Public lectures are held weekly on Sunday evenings, except during August, Lodge meetings and Study groups are held regularly and a Meditation Group meets weekly. Colwyn Bay Lodge has regular public lectures and members' study groups. The house "Plas Bendith," which we were at one time during the year in danger of losing, has been saved for the present, for the work of the Society and kindred activities, by the brave efforts of some of the members, especially Miss Eleanor Edwards, the President of the Lodge, who has taken over the management of the house. This Lodge has 43 members. Newport Lodge holds regular



meetings for members at the Civic Centre. Occasional public lectures are arranged. The progress of the Lodge is however disappointing. It is felt that a more central meeting place is necessary. There are 12 members. Swansea Lodge is showing signs of revival. Membership has increased (there are 11 members in the area) but a leader is lacking. Public lectures are arranged from time to time from Headquarters. The great need here is a leader who will conduct a regular study group. Other Lodges have suffered from transfer of active members and though their Charters have not been returned, they are not outwardly active, though there are several members on their registers. It looks as if Penarth Lodge will have to be merged into Cardiff unless a change occurs in that area. Wrexham is still going through a difficult time and it may be that the Centre for work in that area will have to be moved owing to the fact that the members are so scattered. Quite a large proportion of our members are Unattached (approximately 42). Efforts are made to keep in touch with these by correspondence and much useful work is done in this way to encourage lonely members and to maintain their interest.

Our great need is leadership on the spot in those areas in which it is felt that growth is possible. Help from Section Headquarters is confined to organization, correspondence and occasional visits. We have no office staff so most of the work of the office falls on the General Secretary. It would be a tremendous help to have the services of a travelling lecturer and organizer who could concentrate on an area for periods of time to encourage local members. Unfortunately our Section cannot at present arrange this.

The National Council met three times during the year. The General Secretary attended meetings of the British Isles and Ireland Regional Committee.

*Summer School.*—The British Isles Summer School held in August was attended by fourteen members from Wales.

*Refugees Camp Adoption Scheme.*—Members of the Society in Cardiff are co-operating in this European Theosophical scheme for helping refugees in camps.

*Co-operation with other Organizations.*—Co-operation with the Wales United Nations Association develops in Cardiff. The Lodge undertook to be responsible for the collection in Central Cardiff for the special appeal for U. N. I. C. E. F. The President of Cardiff Lodge is a member of the local committee. This effort resulted in the collection of approximately £72. The local officers of U. N. A. lecture each year from our platforms.

Cardiff Lodge members also continue to be active in the work of the British Council. This makes a valuable link with students who come to Wales from other countries. Cardiff City has quite an active group of international workers, e.g. an Indian Students Group, Polish Society, Overseas Club, International Friendship Group, and so on. Members of the Lodge keep in touch with these and one of our members lectures sometimes to other organizations. A Psychology group in Cardiff is also in close touch and lecturers are invited from the Society.

*Raja Commemorative Fund.*—The Section is anxious to help as much as possible to develop this fund which will be of great value to small Sections. Donations sent to Adyar up to date from Wales amount to £45.

*Headquarters Premises.*—Extensive repairs have been necessary during the year. It is satisfactory to be able to report that at the beginning of 1955 a capital redemption insurance policy will mature and enable us to clear the mortgage on the property. This means that in future years there should be a little more money available for development work. The

income from national dues is barely sufficient to cover expenses of postages, telephone, printing, and so on.

*Conclusion.*—Though we are not able to report much progress, we are confident that the Section is truly active and that in days to come the work will bear more

fruit. There is happily much evidence in Wales of the growth of the Theosophical ideal of Universal Brotherhood and this is especially apparent amongst the younger generation.

E. CLAUDIA OWEN,  
*General Secretary.*

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## POLAND

No Report

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## URUGUAY

On August 28th the Theosophical Society in Uruguay held its twenty-seventh annual Convention at Headquarters with a large number of members present.

The session was opened by the General Secretary, Sr. Enrique Molina, who read his opening address in which he emphasized the value of a Theosophical Convention as a spiritual action. He pointed out also that although the Section is not very large, it continues to maintain, nevertheless, and hold aloft the teachings of Theosophy and their spiritual worth, making known as far as lies in its power those truths to the great number of people who are interested in them.

He referred to the leaders of the Society who have preceded us, placing in relief the work that they have done and the sacrifice of their lives in the welfare of humanity.

Continuing, he informed the Convention of the work carried on by the seven Lodges which compose the Section, meeting weekly to devote themselves to the study of diverse Theosophical and philosophical subjects. They include also in their work subjects dealing with art, religion, social matters, naturalism, occultism and other related matters.

They had observed the commemorative dates of the Society, especially celebrating a great meeting of remembrance on June

18th, the first anniversary of the death of Bro. Jinarajadasa for whom all Theosophists hold the greatest respect and fraternal love. There was founded also a Lodge which called itself "Adyar," with the object of getting to know the work being done at the Headquarters at Adyar.

As regards membership, he stated that the Section was composed of 7 Lodges which function regularly. This year the entries, up to August 25th, numbered 16 new members, bringing the number composing the Uruguayan Section up to 94.

The Convention ended with the election of the General Secretary for the period August 1954 to August 1957. After the scrutiny the result proved to be the election of Bro. Mario Radaelli, an old member and one of the founders of the Uruguayan Section, a writer, journalist, artist-painter, well known in literary circles, and deeply acquainted with Theosophical teachings.

The new General Secretary then took up the duties of his office thanking all the members. The retiring Secretary also expressed his gratitude for the co-operation given him during his term of office, and wished all success to the work of the Society.

ENRIQUE MOLINA,  
*General Secretary.*

## PUERTO RICO

Our enrolment till September 30th, 1953 was 99 members. At the end of this year, September 30th, 1954, our membership was 103. Two of our members passed away and 3 were withdrawn. Our final total is 103 with a gain of 4 members.

We chartered Lodge Amor in Arecibo, a group that Luz Maria Durand formed in her previous visit. Now we have eight Lodges in our Section. We have at present two study groups from which we hope to have new Lodges developed in the future.

We continue our radio talks every Sunday morning, translating from the booklets that are written in Krotona. We hope that these translations can be of use in the Spanish speaking countries.

We have had Luz Maria Durand and her husband with us since last February. They have done splendid work, giving lectures and preparing groups which evidently will later join the Society.

Dr. Alfonso is also giving lectures occasionally, so my desire of having Spanish lecturers for our Sections is coming to a reality. I hope we shall be able to get more people interested in Theosophy, if

we go patiently about it, without expecting too much.

We have crowds in our building when we have lectures and at times we have had them twice a week, which means that people are anxiously looking for something that we have to help them discover.

We have celebrated all the Theosophical activities of the year, including the United Nations Day.

Our *Heraldo* is spreading more and more in the Lodges and to members of the Spanish Sections, from whom we receive lovely letters of appreciation.

Three members of our Section visited "Olcott" for the period of the American Convention and Summer School. It was a great opportunity to get in touch with our International President and his wife and son and to enjoy being in "Olcott," which holds some of the nicest people in the world. "Olcott" is a fountain of inspiration and an example of the living Fraternity we expect the world to have.

ESPERANZA C. HOPGOOD,  
*General Secretary.*

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## RUMANIA

No Report

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## YUGOSLAVIA

No Report

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## CEYLON

The Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society in Ceylon was held under the presidentship of Mr. Rohit Mehta, General Secretary of the Indian Section of the Theosophical Society, on Saturday, 21st August 1954, at Besant Hall, Wellawatta, Colombo and on Sunday, 22nd, at Sri Palee, Horana. The Convention was attended by 150 members, including five distinguished guests, Mr. and Mrs. Rohit Mehta, Archbishop the Most Rev. Odo A. Barry and Mrs. Barry, and Mr. M. Subramaniam.

The proceedings began with a song by Mrs. Shridevi Mehta, followed by the Prayers of the Religions, after which the Presidential Agent, Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q.C., welcomed the delegates from abroad and explained briefly the work of the Theosophical Society. Then came the opening address of the chairman, Mr. Rohit Mehta, and after a brief interval a talk by Archbishop Barry on "The Problem of Health in the Light of Theosophy".

In the afternoon there was a short business session, the main items being a resolution to revive the National Section of the Theosophical Society in Ceylon now that there were the requisite number of Lodges, and secondly the appointment of a committee to draft the Constitution and Rules for the Section. The rules committee consists of the following brethren : N. K. Choksy, Q. C., D. L. F. Pedris, F. Rustomjee, D. Muthuweera, F. H. P. Joseph, W. L. Mendis and E. L. Kelaart.

On Sunday morning the session was resumed at Sri Palee, Horana, with the Prayers of the Religions, after which Mrs. Shridevi Mehta spoke on "The Art of Living". This was followed by a distribution of diplomas and the welcoming of some new members by Mr. Rohit Mehta. A symposium then took place on

"How Theosophy has helped me," to which a number of brethren contributed.

After lunch the business session was resumed, with a report of the work in Ceylon in 1953-54, which was read by Mr. Kelaart. The following office bearers were then elected :—

<i>National President</i>	Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q. C.
<i>Vice-President</i>	Mr. D. L. F. Pedris
<i>Secretary</i>	Mr. E. L. Kelaart
<i>Asst. Secretary</i>	Miss Enid Botejue
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr. B. T. Thiedeman
<i>Editor</i>	Dr. W. L. Mendis.

The business session was followed by a short programme of music and dance by the pupils of Sri Palee College. In the evening Mr. M. Subramaniam lectured on "A New Continent of Thought".

The report presented by Mr. Kelaart for 1953-54 tells first of the visit to Ceylon of Mr. N. Sri Ram, President of the Theosophical Society, on his way to Australia and New Zealand. With him were Mrs. Bhagirathi Sri Ram and Mr. M. Subramaniam. The President addressed meetings and gave public lectures and also attended a civic reception accorded him and Mrs. Sri Ram by the Municipality of Colombo.

In September 1953 the members of the Lanka and Besant Lodges met in conference at Sri Palee College, Horana, with a large number of sympathizers and friends. Talks were given by the Presidential Agent, Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q. C., and by Mr. M. Subramaniam. Mr. Subramaniam was specially thanked for the great impetus he had given to the work in Ceylon during the past two months of intensive effort spent in planning and developing Theosophical work in Colombo and some of the principal towns. During his tour of the island Mr. Subramaniam had visited Jaffna, where he inaugurated



the North Ceylon Lodge; Anuradhapura, where the Asoka Lodge was inaugurated; Polgolla; Kandy; Kurunegala; and Panadura, to inaugurate the Sonalla Lodge there and to deliver a public lecture on Buddhism. Due mainly to his exertions the Shanti Lodge, at Meepawala, Galle, and the Olcott Lodge at Barnes Place had also been started. The result was that the membership, which at the beginning of the year had totalled 67, 39 of them in Lanka Lodge and 28 in Besant Lodge, had now risen to 209. The Lodges generally meet fortnightly, but hold additional meetings on special occasions such as the visits of distinguished members passing through Colombo on their way to and from Adyar. Among these recently had been Mr. Geoffrey Hodson, the Rt. Rev. Odo A. Barry and Mrs. Barry, Mr. and

Mrs. C. R. Groves, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. F. Moorhead, Prof. R. Srinivasan and Mrs. E. M. Lavender. Since the Convention of 1954 the Vasantha Lodge at the Sri Palee College, Horana, has been inaugurated on August 23rd and there are bright prospects of new Lodges being started shortly at Kandy, Kurunegala and Galle.

With the revival of Ceylon as a National Section of the Society comes also the revival of the Theosophical bulletin, in its new form *The Plenoma*, a printed quarterly of 12 pages under the editorship of Dr. W. L. Mendis. The first number has appeared and contains a bright and interesting account of the re-attainment of Sectionship by Ceylon after an interval of many years.

N. K. CHOKSY,  
*Presidential Agent.*

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## GREECE

During the past year the work of the Greek Section has been carried on steadily and calmly, in an effort to cultivate Theosophical ideals, that is to say, the ideal of brotherhood among all human beings, freedom of thought and the study of Theosophical philosophy.

We are particularly happy that due to the prevailing altruistic feelings among the members, our work is being carried on most harmoniously.

The number of Lodges remains the same as last year, at seven, five of which are in Athens and two in the provinces. Our membership now stands at over 200.

Our Section suffered a severe blow by the passing of two of the most valued members of our staff, G. Pefanis and Maria Kandili.

Our Theosophical magazine *Deltion*, first issued in 1928, though interrupted for a period, is now being published quar-

terly. Original articles as well as translations appear in this bulletin, which not only forms an appreciated link between members but also attracts the attention of the public.

We have established a Publishing House with the intention of publishing Theosophical literature.

During the year we organized five public lectures, before a big audience, in the largest lecture hall in Athens. The subjects were (1) For a more perfect life; (2) What is Theosophy?; (3) The law of love; (4) Why Annie Besant became a Theosophist, and (5) The true Civilization.

Almost every day of the week there is a meeting of one of our Athens Lodges. Unfortunately the room where we meet is not very suitable for our purposes and our financial situation does not permit anything better.

It was with great pleasure that the Greek Section received the visit of the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Europe, Mr. J. E. van Dissel. We have also had the pleasure of representing and assisting Mme. Ariane de Berg,

of the Swiss Section, in her noble work for the adoption of the Refugee Camp of Kolokynthou, Athens.

KOSTIS MELISSAROPOULOS,  
*General Secretary.*

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## CENTRAL AMERICA

No Report

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## PARAGUAY

No Report

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## PERU

No Report

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## THE PHILIPPINES

The past twelve-month period has been happily filled with various activities designed to disseminate Theosophy in its different aspects and to arouse and maintain the enthusiasm of members in the study and practice of Theosophy as a way of life.

Thirty-two public lectures were delivered on Sundays at the National Headquarters. Seventeen of these lectures were given by Dr. Benito F. Reyes, five by Mrs. Dominga L. Reyes, two by Mr. Carlos Solier, and one each by Judge Jesus P. Morfe, Dr. Horacio Monzon, Dr. Juliana C. Pineda, Mr. Domingo C. Argente, Lieutenant Commander Jose R. Zulueta, Captain Augusto M. Reyes, Mr. Francisco T. Escudero, and Mr. Jose G. Cabrera.

Eight inter-Lodge meetings were held either at the National Headquarters or at

the meeting place of the Lodge that sponsored the meeting.

Special commemorative Theosophical and local programmes were celebrated during the year.

In addition to the public lectures, a class in Elementary Theosophy, attended by members and non-members, was conducted practically every Sunday afternoon by Mr. Francisco T. Escudero, our Director of Studies. The National President continued to hold a Bible Class at the Lotus Lodge the third and fourth Sundays of each month. Regular Theosophical studies were also carried on by most of the Lodges. We were able to put out six issues of our official organ, *The Lotus*.

To present Theosophy through Art, a family concert was given in April, and the month of September was dedicated to

Art during which two literary-musical programmes and two plays (one in English and the other in Tagalog) were presented at the National Headquarters. All these programmes were planned and managed by Mr. Ramon V. Socco.

In January, this year, and every month thereafter, we had also at the National Headquarters, Meditation Meetings from 8.30 to 9.30 in the evening during full-moons. The meetings were conducted by the National President and were intended to uplift and give the participants a measure of peace. At these meetings the importance of being quiet was stressed and the technique of going into silence was taught. A message on a certain virtue was also read at each meeting.

The week-to-week activities of the Society and some long-range plans for Theosophical work in this country were hatched and discussed during what we call "Idea Meetings". These meetings enable us to plan the work in advance, to co-ordinate our own activities, and to systematize the execution of whatever work has been decided upon by the group who participate therein. They are held at the residence of the National President, from 9:00 usually going on till 12:00 every Monday night. These are usually attended by the following enthusiastic members: Captain Augusto M. Reyes (National Secretary), Mrs. Dominga L. Reyes (Assistant National Treasurer), Mr. Francisco T. Escudero (Director of Studies),

M. Ramon V. Socco (Programme Director), Atty. Nicolas P. Tayao (Press Relations Officer), Mr. Sixto R. Gulapa (Auditor), Mr. Manuel M. Manapat (Staff Artist), Mr. Dionisio A. Ferraris Jr. (National Librarian), Mr. Eutropio Miglinie (Assistant Librarian), Atty. Eduardo Ma. Guirnalda (Assistant Press Relations Officer), and Mr. Donato S. Amancio (Assistant Editor of *The Lotus*).

The Theosophical Society in the Philippines is now composed of thirteen Lodges, with 220 active members. During the twelve-month period covered by this report, thirty-one new members were admitted and thirty-one inactive members re-admitted.

Apart from the talks at the National Headquarters and some Lodges, the National President also delivered lectures to some educational, cultural and military organizations. He spoke on "The Scientific Proofs of the Existence of the Soul" at the Manuel L. Quezon Educational Institution and he participated in an open forum on "Truth in Science and Truth in Religion" which was sponsored by the Town Hall Meeting of the Philippines. He was the guest-speaker at the convocations of the officers of the Philippine Navy and the Philippine Army where he talked on "The Philosophy of Communism" in the former and on "Soul, Fact or Fiction" in the latter.

BENITO F. REYES,

*General Secretary.*

## COLOMBIA

During the year under review seven Lodges were separated from this Section in order to constitute a new Section in the neighboring Republic of Venezuela. In spite of that we had an in-

crease of 17 members in the year. There are at present 201 members and 14 Lodges.

I am happy to state that we have completed the number of members necessary

to form the first two Theosophical Lodges in the cities of Quito and Guayaquil, in the Republic of Ecuador, which is affiliated to our national Section. This is the outcome of the very commendable work of our brothers R. Octavio Valencia in Quito and Angel Celio Castra in Guayaquil, to whom we offer our sincere congratulations.

Brother Dr. Francisco J. Arenas of Trujillo, Valle, has also continued his great activity and has already formed a new group which it is hoped will

develop into another Lodge, in Alto Caceres, near Trujillo.

We have continued the publication of our 32-page pamphlets, and during the year have issued four new numbers, as follows :

<i>Advantages of Theosophy</i>	1,500 copies
<i>Reincarnation</i>	1,000 copies
<i>Karma</i>	1,500 copies
<i>The Invisible World and Krishnamurti and the Theosophical Society</i>	1,000 copies

CORINA MARTINEZ SANDERS,  
General Secretary.

## EAST AFRICA

The East African Section consists of four Territories, namely Zanzibar, Kenya, Uganda, and Tanganyika. Thus the Section as a whole covers a very large area. There are many difficulties in regard to transport and communications, and we have to face these in our attempt to spread the message of Theosophy. Nevertheless, the members of the Executive Committee, as well as the intensity of the work done by the more enthusiastic members of the big Lodges, have to a large extent succeeded in achieving satisfactory progress. The vast distance between the Lodges prevents visiting members and also overseas lecturers from paying even occasional visits, and this adversely affects the interest of the out-of-the-way Lodges which are at present four in number. The Lodges in the larger cities, such as Nairobi, Mombasa, and Zanzibar, have a fair chance to thrive and remain constantly very active.

*Membership.*—It is not possible to present an exact account of membership changes owing to the failure of some Lodges to send in their returns. However, the outstanding feature has been the regu-

lar unabated increase in numerical strength. The membership now stands at 325, against 259 in the previous year. It shows a definite gain of 66, and bespeaks an encouraging result.

*Lodges.*—During the year under review three new Lodges have been formed, one each in Mombasa, Nakuru and Eldoret. This brings the total number of Lodges to 13. The formation of these three new Lodges is due to the indefatigable activities of Mr. J. T. Keshani, an old Theosophist and a member of Sri Ramakrishna Lodge at Mombasa. During school vacations he goes up-country with a view to making contacts with the members of other Lodges, trying to make them more active, and also enlisting new members, and if possible opening new Centres as well as Lodges. He takes with him a stock of books on Theosophy, so that interested friends can be at once served at actual cost. The long distance makes it difficult for him to visit many places, but we hope that the fine example he has set will encourage the members of other Lodges to direct their activities in a similar manner and thus be of assistance to the



two or three Lodges which are somewhat inactive.

*Convention.*—The fifth annual Convention of the East African Section will take place at Mombasa, where we have three Lodges, during the Christmas period, December 25th to 27th.

*Publicity Work.*—In East Africa the Theosophical Society is not so reserved as to keep itself aloof or separate from other organizations. Almost all the Lodges keep their platform open to local social, religious, educational and cultural organizations, so as to enlist their support and sympathy for the Society's activities. People need help to understand and cope with the many problems with which they are confronted, and it has been found that they easily understand the intricate life as well as world problems through the literature of our Society. In order to do this more effectively we invite them to our Lodge meetings and lectures and at the close Adyar pamphlets and small books on certain subjects are given them for study and leisurely reading at home. Thus their interest in the Society is aroused and the healthy atmosphere becomes an asset in the easy spread of Theosophy in our Section. They muster strong when overseas lecturers visit our Section and give every co-operation to our work.

*Theosophical Books.*—Good stocks of books on Theosophy are held at Mombasa as well as Dar-es-Salaam, wherefrom the Lodges' or members' immediate demand is met. Mr. P. D. Master and Mr. J. D. Shah order the books from London and Adyar in lots on their own account, just to assist the new Lodges and interested up-country friends. Mr. P. D. Master, about a year ago, made certain arrangements whereby some of the old Gujarati books on Theosophy were reprinted and given at nominal cost to the members as well as to the public. Most of the members in our Section are Gujarati knowing

and so they prefer books written in this language. Most of the books were written by Mr. Harjivan Kalidas Mehta of the Saurashtra-Gujarat Federation, and they have gained good popularity among the members.

*Overseas Visitors.*—Mr. J. J. van Ginkel on his way to South Africa stopped for three days in Nairobi. He was received at the air-port by members of the Nairobi Lodge. On March 21st he gave a lecture on "The Origin of Races," and on the 22nd a dinner party was arranged in his honor at the residence of Mr. J. D. Byramjee, where he gave a talk on "Adyar and its Activities," which greatly helped the members to know something of Headquarters' activities and the life of workers there.

Another visitor was Mrs. Elizabeth Higginson of Salisbury Lodge to the Lodge at Zanzibar. Other visitors from India were Swami Digamberji of Kaiwalya Ashram who gave a series of talks on Hatha Yoga to some of our Lodges ; Swami Nihshreyanandji, a devoted worker of the Ramakrishna Mission, who gave public lectures on Raj Yoga ; and Mr. M. H. Vakil, a member of one of the Bombay Lodges, who spoke to the members at Nairobi Lodge.

*Lodge Meetings.*—Lodge meetings are held on week-days according to the convenience of the members. Commemorative days such as February 17, and White Lotus Day, were duly observed. In the weekly Lodge meetings books are read and explanations in either English or Gujarati are given, sometimes followed by discussion of lively interest. It has been found that in almost all the Lodges the subjects which appeal most are generally of the heart-side rather than of the cold intellect. The majority of the members are of the devotional type, and so it becomes difficult to take up

such books as *The Secret Doctrine* or the *Upanishads*.

*Mr. Geoffrey Hodson*.—We are very grateful to the President that he has made it possible for Mr. Hodson to accept our invitation to visit our Section on his way to attend the Southern African Convention in April 1955. He will visit the Lodges at Nairobi, Kampala, Mombasa, Zanzibar

and Dar-es-Salaam, at all of which places he will lecture.

In conclusion, I pray that the Society may be a portal of initiation to all its members, and a steadily increasing number of willing and daring souls for the service of such a great Society.

V. H. KAPADIA,  
General Secretary.

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## PAKISTAN

No Report

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## MALAYA AND SINGAPORE

No Report

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## NORTHERN IRELAND

The Theosophical Society in Northern Ireland has done a useful year's work. The three Lodges, at Belfast, Coleraine and Bangor, held meetings during the year for members and the public. The Whitehouse Centre was closed at the end of 1953, owing to the removal to another district of Miss Chase, its hostess and secretary; but all contacts made in Whitehouse have been maintained by the Belfast Lodge. The scattered nature of our membership makes small group meetings in members' private houses an important element in our work, and it is noteworthy that during the year under review such meetings were held in six different places or districts in the houses of eight different members. To the several hosts and hostesses—particularly the hostesses—we are sincerely grateful.

In March 1954 we had a two-day visit from the President, a very happy and

inspiring occasion. The guest speaker at our Annual Convention in May 1954 was Mr. C. R. Groves, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in England. Other visiting speakers during the year have been Mrs. Berry, Mrs. Daw, Mrs. Hornidge, Mrs. Law, Mrs. Yates, Miss Blanch, Capt. H. W. Muirson Blake, Mr. John Coats and Mr. J. J. van Ginkel. We are particularly grateful to so many of these visitors who came to us at their own expense, for our remote position and small resources would make such a rich programme impossible for us if we had to sustain it ourselves without help. During the year, also, a number of our members expanded acquaintance with Theosophical work by visiting other countries and Sections, and six of them participated in the British Isles Summer School.

A continued low intake of new members threatens us with a sharp decline in total

membership in the near future. Membership at September 30th, 1954, was 71,

an increase of one over the preceding year.

HUGH SHEARMAN,  
Organizing Secretary.

## VIET-NAM

*Congress of Religions.*—As was done last year, we organized at our Theosophical building on April 18th and 19th a Congress of most of the country's religious communities. Public lectures were delivered, the various sects each selecting a theme.

*Propaganda Work on Theosophical Teachings.*—An important gathering is held monthly at our Lodge, every first Sunday. A lecture is given, usually before an audience of 150 to 200 people, despite the inconvenient location of our Theosophical building.

Our vernacular magazine *Dao-Hoc* has completed its first year of existence. Subscribers and casual readers numbered 1,500 at the beginning but are now reduced to 750. This is due to the aridity of the themes approached and to the lack of literary contributions. We are, however, making an attempt to remedy the situation.

Theosophical literature published in the vernacular is being put on sale in every province in South Viet-Nam by a very active group of salesmen, and has proved to be fruitful. It is favorably welcomed by Caodaist circles with the recommendation of their Superior. Nevertheless, Caodaist adherents prefer spirit-

ualistic messages to any other form of spiritual teaching!

Apart from previous publications in 1953, we have this year completed the translation of *Towards the Temple* and *The Path of Discipleship*; also a version of the *Bhagavad Gita* is being prepared.

*General Activities.*—The work carried on in our provincial Lodges is not very satisfactory on account of the restricted number of members on the one hand, and of various difficulties arising from the present circumstances in our war-torn country on the other. In Saigon our Lodge "Pervading Love" has been carrying on good work, thanks to the efforts of our brother Phan-van-Hien, a very active worker. A weekly lecture is given regularly in this Lodge.

*Social Work.*—The orphanage under our Section's management has so far adopted 30 children and is still prosperous. It has been the object of general appreciation and has received financial aid from persons far and near. It has also helped to increase public sympathy for the Theosophical Society. We are now contemplating the creation of an organization for the benefit of needy people.

PHAM-NGOC-DA,  
General Secretary.

## STATE OF ISRAEL

No Report

## JAPAN

No Report

## VENEZUELA

This annual report covers the first year's activities with regard to Theosophy in this national Section. Our Section Charter was granted on September 23rd, 1953. As soon as it was received the election of the General Secretary was proceeded with, and confirmed on October 4th, with the result that Sr. Pablo Bonilla T. was elected to fill this office.

*Lodges.*—Each of the Lodges formed after obtaining the Section Charter has been working in a normal manner, with a meeting once a week. On June 22nd a new Lodge was formed, which has worked with good results.

*Membership.*—During the year just passed 44 new members have joined. Brothers Nina de Gutierrez and Angel Fuenmayor passed away during the year, and there were three resignations.

*Lines of Service.*—This Section has established the following lines of service: free instruction by correspondence in Theosophy, which is taken advantage of by more than 300 students and others who live in the interior of the country; extraordinary meetings in various Lodges to make known to the public the scientific aspect of Theosophy.

*Donations.*—Various collections have been made of donations: Adyar Day and the A.B.C. Funds; the orphanage carried on by Theosophists in Viet-Nam; the distribution every Sunday of magazines and gifts to the sick in hospital; and at Christmas 1953 toys and clothes were distributed to a number of poor children.

PABLO BONILLA T.,  
General Secretary.

## CANADIAN FEDERATION

We are glad to be able to report an increase in our membership this year again, after taking care of transfers and lapsings. We were very pleased to welcome a number of members who formed a new Lodge in Summerland, B.C.

The Federation Secretary found it possible to visit all the Lodges in October 1953 and so have personal contact with a number of the members. She spoke at a members' meeting at each Lodge and also gave two public lectures.

Two of our Lodges had the privilege of welcoming our International President,

Mr. N. Sri Ram, who spoke at members' meetings and also gave a public lecture at each Lodge. These visits were very much appreciated and created a good stimulus to our work.

The same two Lodges also received a visit and lectures from Mr. Geoffrey Hodson in the autumn of 1953.

It was possible, through the kind co-operation of the American Section, to have Mr. and Mrs. E. Norman Pearson visit four of our Lodges during the past season. Their efforts were very much



appreciated, especially so in view of the long distance that had to be travelled to visit these Lodges.

All the Lodges are working well and hope to be able to report increased activity during the coming year.

JOAN S. MORRIS,  
Secretary.

## EUROPEAN FEDERATION

The main events of the year in the European field were the President's visit to Europe on his way to and from the U.S.A.; the holding of the European Council Meeting in Norway; and four Regional Summer Schools.

*The European Council*, under the Chairmanship of the General Secretary, was held June 27-30, during the first days of the Scandinavian Summer School at Norefjell, in Norway. Eight countries were represented, 22 officials being present of whom six were General Secretaries.

*The Scandinavian Summer School* was attended by over a hundred members, coming mainly from Norway, Sweden, Denmark and Finland, and was presided over by Mr. E. Wikstrom, the Swedish General Secretary. The new Norwegian General Secretary, Mr. Erling Havrevold, who had just been elected, was able to attend.

*The British and Irish Regional Summer School* held at Swanwick, Derbyshire, England, from August 28th to September 4th, proved a great success, the President attending and giving the main lectures. 280 members were present from many countries.

*The French-Speaking Regional Summer School* met this year at Savosa, near Lugano, from August 28th to September 5th. It was presided over by the General Secretary of the European Federation and attended by some 90 members from Switzerland, Belgium, France, Italy, Spain, Holland, England and Viet-Nam. It was

the first time that so many Latin countries were represented.

The German-speaking Regional Summer School was organized again at Pichl i/Ennstal, Austria, from September 5th to 12th, and it also was presided over by the General Secretary of the European Federation. It proved an excellent gathering with members from Austria, Germany and Switzerland.

The German Section held its Summer School and Convention in Rendsburg from September 5th to 22nd. The President and Mrs. Sri Ram attended. Mr. van Dissel was also present during part of the time. Mr. Boyken was re-elected General Secretary.

The President visited the following countries in Europe: England; Wales; Northern Ireland and Eire; the Netherlands, where he stayed at the Huizen Centre and gave a lecture for members in The Hague; France; Germany; Belgium; Switzerland and Italy. In the latter country he attended the Italian Convention in Florence, leaving for India from Rome in the middle of October. He brought much inspiration and greatly helped to strengthen the work wherever he went.

The coming into office of a new President, especially at a time when the work of the European Federation enters into a new phase, made it desirable for the European General Secretary to go to Adyar, in December 1953, to discuss the essential points of work in the immediate future and to fit this in with the President's

policy for the Society as a whole. He also attended the meeting of the General Council. On his way back from Adyar in January Mr. van Dissel visited the Greek Section, where he met the new Greek General Secretary, Mr. Melissaropoulos and addressed two members' meetings. He attended the Welsh Convention in Cardiff in May and presided over the Regional Committee of the German-speaking Sections in Basel, which is becoming a centre of activities.

Everywhere the regional work is developing satisfactorily and proves of value in giving opportunity for Sectional co-operation on a higher level.

The new regional periodical for French-speaking members, *Clarte*, started in January, is meeting a long-felt need.

*Theosophy in Action* and *Adyar*, edited respectively by Mrs. Adelaide Gardner and Dr. Lauppert, are continuing to give their valuable contribution.

There is a close contact with Young Theosophists in Europe, who held their meeting this summer at Huizen at the same time as the international week of that Centre. They are becoming more

and more part of our work. Their own periodical, *Enthousiasme*, is well edited and appears in French, German and English.

On the whole 1954 has been a very busy and fruitful year of work and marks a definite step forward in our European activities.

It was Walt Whitman, the American poet, who once said, "Now understand me well, it is provided in the essence of things that from any fruition of success, no matter what, shall come forth something to make a greater struggle necessary." These words apply today to our European work. After the wonderful gathering we had last year at Huizen when celebrating our Golden Jubilee, we are faced today with an increased amount of work and a great many new problems.

It is well always to remember that the Theosophical Society is a movement of pioneers and that it is expected from the Theosophical Society in Europe to give a spiritual lead to a Europe struggling for unity.

J. E. VAN DISSEL,  
General Secretary.

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## THE WORLD FEDERATION OF YOUNG THEOSOPHISTS

The last annual Meeting was held on December 29th, 1953, during the 78th International Theosophical Convention, at the International Youth Headquarters, Adyar. Representatives personally gave greetings from the European Federation, Germany, the United States of America and India. Mr. J. E. van Dissel was our guest. Srimati Rukmini Devi presided.

The Annual Report was read, approved and adopted, as was the Treasurer's Report. After a discussion on the financial situation of the Federation the election of the new office bearers commenced.

The following were elected: Nancy A. Buch as General Secretary, S. V. Raman as Treasurer, and on the Executive Committee: Peter Hoffman, S. Sankari, P. K. Bhuvaneshwari and M. V. Krishna Sastry. No new business was brought up so the meeting was adjourned.

*Membership.*—The total membership of countries affiliated with the World Federation stands at twenty-seven. No new members joined this year.

*The Past Year and Our Work.*—During 1953 the European Federation has made one of the most outstanding strides forward

in widening their sphere of influence. For instance, the new Italian group (only 1½ years old) have already started publishing their own edition of *Enthousiasme* the magazine of the Y. T. in Europe. Also a new group is taking hold in Sweden, and has every indication of spreading new Lodges and Centres throughout Scandinavia.

Mr. Aisso Raven, whose splendid work all these years as President of the European Federation of Young Theosophists has made that Federation the united working body it is today, writes that he has given up his official duties to another. It is always with regret that we bid adieu (from the official ranks) to workers as capable as he. May he accept the sincere

good wishes and thanks of every member for his sustained and effective work in Europe.

Nine countries have not submitted reports for this year. Generally speaking the work in other countries goes on with steadily increasing enthusiasm, and the scene is very encouraging despite the small set-backs which may occur once in a while.

Grateful thanks are due to Srimati Rukmini Devi for her affectionate help and guidance and to the Treasurer and Executive Committee members for their co-operation.

NANCY A. BUCH,

*General Secretary.*

The following were elected: S. V. Ramana as General Secretary, Dr. V. Ramana as Treasurer, and on the Executive Committee: Peter Bloem, Dr. S. Ramana, Dr. H. Ramana and Dr. N. Ramana. The new business was brought up to the meeting was adjourned.

The last annual meeting was held on December 28th, 1933, during the 18th International Theosophical Convention, at the International Youth Headquarters, when representatives personally gave reports from the European Federation, Germany, the United States of America and India. Mr. V. E. van Driel was our guest. Srimati Rukmini Devi presided. The Annual Report was read, approved and adopted, and was the first time that the Annual Report was the basis of the election of the new officers.

# HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, MADRAS 20

## OFFICERS

1953—1954

### Executive Committee :

- (1) THE PRESIDENT
- (2) THE VICE-PRESIDENT
- (3) THE RECORDING SECRETARY
- (4) THE TREASURER
- (5) SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI
- (6) DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI
- (7) MISS ANN KERR
- (8) MR. K. S. RAJAGOPALAN
- (9) MR. S. G. VENKATARAMANAN

*Ex-officio*

**Archives :** MISS K. A. BEECHEY.

**Adyar Library :** DIRECTOR : MR. ALAIN DANIELOU ; ASSISTANT DIRECTOR : MRS. RADHA BURNIER ; LIBRARIAN : SRIMATI A. SIITAA DEVIL.

**Bhojanasala :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. N. R. SUBRAMANIA IYER.

**Dispensary :** MEDICAL OFFICER : DR. E. SUNDARESAN.

**Engineering Department :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. M. D. SUBRAMANIAM.

**Garden Department :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. K. NEELAKANTAN.

**Laundry :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. M. V. GOPALAKRISHNA IYER.

**Leadbeater Chambers :** SUPERINTENDENT : MISS FLORENCE PULSFORD

**Legal Adviser :** N. K. CHOKSY, ESQ., Q.C.

**Medical Consultant :** DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI.

**Post Office :** MR. V. SRINIVASAN, SUB-POSTMASTER.

**Sanitation and Hygiene Officer :** MADAME P. CAZIN.

**School of the Wisdom :** PRINCIPAL : MR. N. SRI RAM ; DIRECTOR OF STUDIES : MR. GEOFFREY HODSON.

**The Theosophical Publishing House :** MANAGER : MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.

**The Vasanta Press :** MANAGER : MR. D. V. SYAMALA RAU.

**Watch and Ward Department :** SUPERINTENDENT : MR. K. S. KRISHNAMURTI.



## THE ADYAR LIBRARY

### ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1953-54

The year started with Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti as Director. On October 30th, 1953, Mr. Alain Danielou, who had become Curator of the Library on July 17th, 1953, was appointed Director by the President, with the hearty approval of Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti, who was at the same time appointed Adviser. Under the guidance of the President, a number of changes were initiated with a view to improving and extending the work of the Library, which was founded with the purpose of carrying out the Second Object of the Theosophical Society.

*Constitution.*—A Council was formed to direct the general policy of work, including publications, with the President or his Deputy as Chairman and the Director as an *ex-officio* member. The following were appointed as members : Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti, Adviser, Miss Ann Kerr, Assistant Recording Secretary, and Mrs. Radha Burnier, who was also appointed as Assistant Director. During the course of the year there were further additions to the Council : namely, Miss Emma Hunt, Recording Secretary, Mr. Rohit Mehta, General Secretary of the Indian Section, and Dr. V. Raghavan, Head of the Sanskrit Department in the University of Madras. On his return from a tour abroad, Dr. V. Raghavan also kindly agreed to become an Adviser to the Library.

*Staff.*—The changes in the staff were as follows : Mr. Alain Danielou became Director and Mrs. R. Burnier, Assistant Director ; Mr. Raymond Burnier was asked to take charge of the work of re-organization ; Mr. H. G. Narahari left

to take up work in the Deccan College, Poona. The rest of the staff remained the same, although changes were made in the distribution of the work.

*Accommodation.*—At the beginning of the year, the Library was very short of space. Many valuable books, having been kept in storage as there was no room on the shelves, had suffered damage due to damp and other causes. On November 14th, 1953, the President gave permission to shift the Theosophical Museum to a large and beautiful room in an adjacent building where it has been rearranged and is now open to visitors. The rooms so far occupied by the Museum were then fitted with shelves for the use of the Library. The balcony overlooking the river was also enlarged and transformed into a reading-room extension. The Library has thus greatly improved its accommodation.

*Preservation.*—One of the first measures undertaken by the new Director was to organize a regular system for the fumigation and disinfecting of manuscripts and books to avoid any possibility of damage through insects. The manuscripts are now kept in small rooms especially constructed to prevent deterioration through humidity. Both manuscripts and books are being regularly treated with the chemicals necessary to safeguard them.

*Accession.*—We have acquired ten new palm-leaf manuscripts, prepared micro-films of a Sangita work by Bhava Bhatta and of a Purvamimamsa work, the "Pistapasu Mimamsa". We also prepared a transcript from the manuscript

of "Yoga Yatra" by Varahamihira, an astrological work (on loan from the London India Office Library). We have accessed more than 600 new books, and have received a larger number of books through exchange than in previous years.

*Classification and Cataloguing.*—The Library has started the reclassification of books according to modern methods, using the Dewey Decimal System for Western books and a parallel decimal classification, arranged by the Director, for Eastern books, many of which were completely unclassified. A detailed Card Catalogue is being made for Authors, Titles, and Subjects, with adequate cross-references, so that the student will have every facility for consultation. We have started with the books in the Eastern Section. Western books on Religion and Philosophy have been completed. We hope to have the Eastern Section in order during the coming year and shall then proceed to complete the Western and Theosophical books. Well over ten thousand books have been reclassified between December 1953 and October 1954. This work has been carried on under the direction of Mrs. Radha Burnier with the help of Srimati A. Siitaa Devii, Pandit Ramachandra Bhat, Mr. Henry van de Poll, Pandit T. Venkatarama Sarma and others. The Chinese and Tibetan books in the Library are also being classified and catalogued. A preliminary classification of the Chinese books was made by Mr. Andre Levi from France during his visit to the Library in May. This work has since been carried on by Mr. van de Poll.

The work of examining and listing previously unclassified manuscripts was also taken up. A list of the manuscripts given to the Library by the Visvabharati University has been prepared by Pandit V. Krishnamacharya, assisted by Pandit Ramachandra Sarma, and is now ready

for publication. A list has also been made of other unclassified manuscripts.

The preparation of the Tenth Volume of the Descriptive Catalogue of our manuscripts (Visistadvaita and other branches of the Vedanta) has been completed and is also ready for publication. The Descriptive Catalogue of Sruta manuscripts is under preparation. This work is under the care of Pandit V. Krishnamacharya, assisted by Pandit Ramachandra Sarma.

*Workshops.*—The Director has made plans to start a number of workshops which will do research on specialized subjects. Attempts are being made to collect funds for definite workshops and it is estimated that each one will need Rs. 1,250 per month for its running expenses. Two workshops are already functioning :

(1) An Agama workshop which has taken up again the work started by Dr. O. Schrader. This workshop is under the direction of Pandit V. Krishnamacharya ; he is assisted by Pandit Ramachandra Sarma. An edition of the Lakshmi Tantra, an important Pancaratra Agama, is under preparation.

(2) A music workshop under the personal direction of Mr. Danielou, who has at hand his unique collection of manuscripts on Indian music. He is assisted by Pandit Ramachandra Bhat who has been comparing the different manuscripts of the Sangita Narayana. This workshop is preparing to publish Puranic texts on music and also a short text called the Gandharva Veda. Pandits T. Venkatarama Sarma and Ramanuja Iyengar have also been helping in this work.

*Office.*—The office of the Library is being re-organized under the supervision of Mr. Raymond Burnier. Modern methods of record keeping and office work are being introduced. Efforts are being made to create wider contacts with

other learned institutions and with scholars throughout the world.

*Publications.*—The policy for publications had to be reconsidered during the year. The special Publication Fund being exhausted, for several years this work was carried on at the expense of the Endowment Fund which is now very much depleted, since the books published had a poor sale. Hence further publications were temporarily suspended and the prices of books in the existing stock revised. Adequate methods for sale and distribution throughout the world are now being introduced and the Director in his recent European tour made a number of fruitful contacts towards this end.

The Adyar Library Bulletin (Brahma Vidya) has been given a new format and is issued as a new series, since Mr. Danielou took charge as Editor. Long serial publications will henceforth be discontinued and texts will, as far as possible, be published with translations, so that the Bulletin may be attractive to scholars as well as interested laymen.

*Visitors.*—We have received visits from: Mr. Andre Levi of France, Mr. D. Ruegg of America, Mr. van Buitenen of Holland who is preparing an edition of the Vedartha Sangraha, Mr. Norman Brown, Head of the Sanskrit Department in the University of Philadelphia, Dr. Rocher of the University of Ghent, Mr. Maurer of the Library of Congress and Mr. Ramachandran, Joint Director-General of Archaeology in India. The Library is now only open to consultants and borrowers and not to the many thousands of casual tourist visitors who required constant attendance.

*Director's Tour.*—During the summer, Mr. Danielou visited a number of foreign libraries and institutions, particularly to study methods for the preservation and repair of manuscripts. Among the institutions visited were the Bibliotheque

Nationale, the Musee des Arts et Traditions Populaires, and the Musee d'Ethnographie at Paris; the famous Istituto per la Pathologia del Libro at Rome, where all the manuscripts from Italian Libraries damaged during the war are repaired; the Oriental Library at Leyden; and the Indonesian Institute in Amsterdam.

*Donations.*—We are very grateful to acknowledge a donation of Rs. 1,17,000 from the estate of Mrs. Kathleen Tibbits. As this fund must be used to help to make up the Endowment Fund depletion, the Library continues to have need of funds for its maintenance and publications, and any donations are very welcome.

*Building.*—The Library has, since its foundation, been housed in the Headquarters Building of the Theosophical Society, a portion of which was built by special donations for the Library. It is now occupying other parts of the Headquarters Building which may in time be needed for various purposes. The Headquarters Hall with its religious symbols attracts many thousands of visitors monthly who are only casually interested in the Library. It is also needed for Convention gatherings, Lodge and other meetings. It is difficult, therefore, for the two lines of activity to develop to the full within the limited space available. Hence it is essential for the Library to have its own building, so that, without hindering the work of the Headquarters, it can expand and improve and fulfil the dream of its Founder, Col. H. S. Olcott, of becoming a great International Centre for study and research. Though we have a little over Rs. 1,00,000 in our Building Fund, much more will be needed for a suitable new building.

*Other Needs.*—1. Increasing the collections of manuscripts; 2. Acquiring transcripts and microfilms of important manuscripts; 3. Bringing up to date

our works on Oriental Research and other subjects ; 4. Acquisition of an up to date microfilming equipment ; 5. Publication Funds ; 6. Research Workshops ; 7. Building up the Endowment Fund.

We offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those who have so generously donated money, books, and their services to the Library.

ALAIN DANIELOU, *Director.*

RADHA S. BURNIER, *Asst. Director.*



## THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

### REPORT ON THE SCHOOL YEAR FOR 1953-1954

The fifth Session of the School of the Wisdom opened on October 23rd, 1953, at Olcott Bungalow, in the presence of the assembled students and of Adyar residents interested in the work and welfare of the School.

In the absence of the President, Mr. N. Sri Ram, who is the Principal of the School, Miss Ann Kerr, Assistant Recording Secretary, read a message from him and after describing the administration of the School, she introduced Mr. Geoffrey Hodson as Director of Studies. Mr. Hodson then addressed the gathering, gave an outline of the programme of study, and declared the new session open. His address was printed in *The Theosophist* for November 1953. Nineteen enrolled students and thirty-two observers attended the School during the Session, though not all of them remained throughout the whole period.

Many visiting speakers contributed valuably to the work of the School. They included Miss Emma Hunt, Recording Secretary, who gave three talks on the purpose, the work and the organization of the Theosophical Society; Miss E. W. Preston, with four talks on the structure of matter and the nature and evolution of the solar system; Mr. M. Subramaniam, with seven school periods on various Theosophical teachings; Mrs. Dinshaw on the history and place in the Society of *The Theosophist*; Mr. Duncan Greenlees on Practical Theosophy; Mr. C. R. Groves on Science, and Mrs.

Groves on Yoga; and Miss Ann Kerr on the administrative work of the Society at Adyar and throughout the world. In addition there were lectures on other subjects: Srimati Rukmini Devi spoke of the unique contribution of India; Mr. K. Sankara Menon gave the history, purpose and work of Kalakshetra, and also spoke on Hindu Philosophy; Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti gave a course of lectures on the Hindu Religion; Mr. H. G. Narahari took for his subject the Language and Light of India; Mr. Alain Danielou, Hon. Director of the Adyar Library, took Hindu Mythology and Indian Music, having formerly been Director of the Research Department in the College of Music at Banaras Hindu University; Archbishop Odo Barry addressed the School on the Christian Religion; Dr. Ananthanarayana spoke as an anatomist on the Glands, and also on the Brain; Prof. D. D. Kanga gave a lecture on Atomic Energy, while Prof. R. Srinivasan gave two addresses on the subject of Space and Hyper-Space.

The programme opened each day at 8.15 a.m. from Monday to Friday with fifteen minutes of directed meditation. This was followed by two periods of work in the morning, with a short break for refreshments, and a further short session in the afternoon on four days of the week. Saturdays and Sundays were left free.

The Director of Studies led the students in courses of studies on the purpose and

goal of human existence, extending over the nature and evolution of the Monad and the Ego of man and his bodies and dealing also with the various planes and kingdoms of nature, with karma and re-incarnation, life after death, health and disease, the law of correspondences, the Hierarchy, and practical applications of Theosophy to life.

These were followed by expositions of Cosmogensis, the Logos Doctrine, the Creative Hierarchies, the Angelic Kingdom and Nature Spirits, the science of Yoga and the theory and practice of Meditation, as well as the language of Symbol in the Christian and other religions. There was also a series on the theory and practice of Theosophical lecturing.

The method followed was that of a study class in which progressive expositions were given, with illustrations and charts, and their practical application to human problems. Questions were invited, and assistance was received from Hindu students in expounding Theosophical doctrines in Sanskrit terminology and according to Hindu Scriptures. Some of the studies were illustrated with lantern slides at evening lectures at which Adyar residents could participate.

The various specialized activities of the Theosophical Society at Adyar were visited under the guidance of the heads

of departments : the Vasanta Press, the Garden Department, the Dispensary, the Engineering Department, the Theosophical Publishing House, and other departments, as well as the Besant Cultural Centre.

Friendliness and harmony prevailed throughout the whole session, the students assisting by research and in serving as School Librarian (Mr. Enrique Fernandez) and School Secretary (Mrs. Odo Barry). Occasional informal evening gatherings were held in the Director's rooms at Olcott Bungalow, at which School subjects were discussed and recordings of western music were played. Two sight-seeing excursions, to Conjeevaram and Mahabalipuram, were arranged.

Unfortunately, owing to pressure of duties awaiting him on his return to Adyar after his long tour to Australia and New Zealand, Indonesia, Singapore and Burma, the President of the Society was able to give only one all-too-brief address to the School.

The School closed on the 18th December 1953 after its first term, to enable the students to participate in the International Convention. It re-opened for the second term on January 11th, 1954, which ended with the Director's departure for England on March 21st.

GEOFFREY HODSON,  
*Director of Studies.*

# MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION, ETC.

## CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

No. 2 of 1905

I hereby certify, pursuant to Act XXI of 1860 of the Governor-General of India in Council entitled "An Act for the Registration of Literary, Scientific and Charitable Societies, 1860," that The Theosophical Society is duly incorporated as a Society under the aforesaid Act.



(Sd.) A. PERIYASWAMI MOODALIAR,  
Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

Station, Madras,  
Dated 3rd April 1905.

# THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED NOVEMBER 17, 1875. INCORPORATED APRIL 3, 1905.

*In the matter of Act XXI of 1860 of the Acts of the Viceroy  
and Governor-General of India in Council, being  
an Act for the registration of literary,  
scientific and charitable Societies*

and

IN THE MATTER OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

## MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION

1. The name of the Association is The Theosophical Society.

2. The objects for which the Society is established are :

I. To form a nucleus of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour.

II. To encourage the study of Comparative Religion, Philosophy, and Science.

III. To investigate unexplained laws of Nature and the powers latent in man.

(a) The holding and management of all funds raised for the above objects.

(b) The purchase or acquisition on lease or in exchange or on hire or by

gift or otherwise of any real or personal property, and any rights or privileges necessary or convenient for the purposes of the Society.

(c) The sale, improvement, management and development of all or any part of the property of the Society.

(d) The doing of all such things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them, including the founding and maintenance of a library or libraries.

3. The names, addresses and occupations of the persons who are members of, and form the first General Council which is the governing body of the Society, are as follow :

### GENERAL COUNCIL

#### *Ex-Officio*

*President-Founder* :—H. S. Olcott, Adyar, Madras, Author.

*Vice-President* :—A. P. Sinnett, London, England, Author.

*Recording Secretary* :—Hon. Sir S. Subramania Aiyar, Madras, Justice of the High Court.

*Treasurer* :—W. A. English, M. D., Adyar, Madras, Retired Physician.



Alexander Fullerton, General Secretary, American Section, 7, West 8th St., New York.

Upendra Nath Basu, B.A., LL.B., General Secretary, Indian Section, Benares, U.P.

Bertram Keightley, M.A., General Secretary, British Section, 28, Albemarle St., London, W.

W. G. John, General Secretary, Australasian Section, 42, Margaret Street, Sydney, N.S.W.

Arvid Knos, General Secretary, Scandinavian Section, Engelbrechtsgatan, 7, Stockholm, Sweden.

C. W. Sanders, General Secretary, New Zealand Section, Queen Street, Auckland, N.Z.

W. B. Fricke, General Secretary, Netherlands Section, 76, Amsteldijk, Amsterdam.

Th. Pascal, M.D., General Secretary, French Section, 59, Avenue de la Bourdonnais, Paris.

Decio Calvari, General Secretary, Italian Section, 380, Corso Umberto I., Rome.

Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secretary, German Section, 95, Kaiserallee, Friedenau, Berlin.

Jose M. Masso, Acting General Secretary, Cuban Section, Havana, Cuba.

#### *Additional*

Annie Besant, Benares, Author, [for 3 years].

G. R. S. Mead, London, Author, [for 3 years].

Khan Bahadur Naoroji Dorabji Khandalvala, Poona, Special Judge, [for 3 years].

Dinshaw Jivaji Edal Behram, Surat, Physician, [for 2 years].

Francesca E. Arundale, Benares, Author, [for 2 years].

Tammacharla Ramachandra Row, Gooty, Retired Sub-Judge, [for 1 year].

Charles Blech, Paris, France, Retired Manufacturer, [for 1 year].

4. Henry Steel Olcott, who with the late Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others founded the Theosophical Society at New York, United States of America, in the year 1875, shall hold, during his lifetime, the position of President, with the title of "President-Founder," and he shall have, alone, the authority and responsibility and shall exercise the functions provided in the Rules and Regulations for the Executive Committee, meetings of which he may call for consultation and advice as he may desire.

5. The income and property of the Society, whencesoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Society as set forth

in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividends, bonus, or otherwise by way of profits to the persons who at any time are or have been members of the Society or to any of them or to any person claiming through any of them: Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of remuneration to any officers or servants of the Society or to any member thereof or other person in return for any services rendered to the Society.

6. No member or members of the General Council shall be answerable for any loss arising in the administration

or application of the said trust funds or sums of money or for any damage to or deterioration in the said trust premises unless such loss, damage or deterioration shall happen by or through his or their wilful default or neglect.

7. If upon the dissolution of the Society there shall remain after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Society or any of them but shall be given or transferred to some other Society or Association, Institution or Institutions, having objects similar to the objects of this Society, to be determined by the votes of not less than three-

Witnesses to the signatures :

(Sd.) WM. GLENNY KEAGEY ..

„ ARTHUR RICHARDSON ..

„ PYARE LAL ..

„ PEROZE P. MEHERJEE ..

fifths of the members of the Society present personally or by proxy at a meeting called for the purpose, or in default thereof by such Judge or Court of Law as may have jurisdiction in the matter.

8. A copy of the Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is filed with this Memorandum of Association, and the undersigned being seven of the members of the Governing Body of the said Society do hereby certify that such copy of such Rules and Regulations of the said Theosophical Society is correct.

As witness our several and respective hands, this. . . day of March 1905.

(Sd.) H. S. OLCOTT  
 „ W. A. ENGLISH  
 „ SUBRAMANIAM  
 „ FRANCESCA E. ARUNDALE  
 „ UPENDRANATH BASU  
 „ ANNIE BESANT  
 „ N. D. KHANDALVALA

# RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION NAMED "THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY," ADYAR, MADRAS

1. The General Council shall be the Governing Body of The Theosophical Society. Not less than seven members of this Council shall be residents of India.

2. (a) The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and the General Secretaries of the component National Societies (otherwise called Sections) shall *ex-officio* be members of the General Council. The terms of those members of the General Council who hold office *ex-officio* shall expire with the vacation of their qualifying office.

(b) The General Council shall include not less than 5 and not more than 10 Additional Members, among

whom all past Presidents while in good standing shall automatically have place. Other members shall on the nomination of the President be elected for a term of three years by vote of the General Council at its Annual Meeting, their names having been sent to the Members of the General Council at least three months before the Annual Meeting.

(c) Members retiring shall be eligible for re-election.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall be the Secretary of the General Council.

3. It shall be competent for the General Council to remove any of its members, or any officer of The Society excepting the President of the Theosophical Society and excepting the General

Secretaries of National Societies, by a three-fourths majority of its whole number of members, at a special meeting called for the purpose, of which at least three months' notice shall have been given, the quorum consisting, however, of not less than five members.

4. The General Council shall ordinarily meet once a year, at the time of the Annual Meeting or Convention of The Society ; but a special meeting may be called at any time by the President, and shall be called at any time by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, on the written requisition of not less than one-fourth of the total number of members; but of such special meetings not less than three months' notice shall be given, and the notice shall contain a statement of the special business to be laid before the meeting.

5. At all meetings of the General Council, members thereof may vote in person, or in writing, or by proxy duly given to another member of the General Council for the particular meeting concerned. Except as aforesaid no member shall exercise more than one vote. No member shall be allowed to exercise more than 5 proxy votes.

*Note :* Meetings include Adjourned Meetings.

6. The quorum of an ordinary as well as of a special meeting of the General Council shall be five members. If there be no quorum, the meeting may be adjourned *sine die*, or the Chairman of the meeting may adjourn it to another date, of which three months' further notice shall be given, when the business of the meeting shall be disposed of, irrespective of whether there is a quorum present or not.

7. The President, or in his absence the Vice-President, of The Society, shall preside at all meetings of The Theosophical Society or of the General Council, and

shall have a casting vote in the case of an equal division of the members voting on any question before the meeting.

8. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall elect a chairman from among the members present at the meeting, and he shall have a casting vote in the case of a tie.

9. The term of office of the President shall be seven years.

10. Six months before the expiration of a President's term of office, or within three days of the office becoming vacant, the Recording Secretary shall call for nominations for the office of President from the members of the General Council, each of whom shall be entitled to make not more than three nominations. Such call to members outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air and ordinary mails. Each member of the General Council who is a General Secretary shall consult with the respective National Governing Council and shall make his nominations on its behalf. Nominations of any member or members in good standing, whose consent as laid down hereunder shall be necessary for the validity of the nomination, shall be sent to the Recording Secretary, so as to reach him within two months of the date of the call for nominations.

At the expiration of this period the Recording Secretary shall place all the nominations received along with the relevant papers before the Executive Committee at a meeting specially convened for the purpose. At such meeting the Executive Committee shall examine the nominations. All nominations for which the consent of the nominated member has not been filed in the office of the Recording Secretary within the period of two months just preceding shall be rejected as invalid. The rest shall be counted, and the names of those receiving the three highest numbers of nominations, (or any lesser number

of names, if less than three are nominated) together with any others who have been nominated by not less than half the members of the General Council, but after eliminating any who in the meantime have died or who have withdrawn their consent to nomination and subject only to the provisions of the next following paragraph, shall be those to be voted upon. The list made by the Executive Committee shall not be subject to challenge.

The Recording Secretary shall immediately in writing communicate all the names on the list to each nominee thereon (if the nominee is not at Adyar the communication shall be by telegraph or cable). In the event of any death or withdrawal the corresponding name shall be struck from the list.

On the tenth day following the meeting of the Executive Committee for the examination of nominations, the Recording Secretary shall communicate the list of nominees remaining to be voted upon, to the General Secretaries, and to Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar. Such communication to the General Secretaries outside India shall be by cable, confirmed within two days by air mail and ordinary mail, and to the others by air mail confirmed within two days by ordinary mail. Each General Secretary shall take the individual vote of each of the voter-members of his Section, that is, of members of the National Society on his rolls who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Section, and shall communicate the result to the Recording Secretary, who shall himself take the votes of the Lodges and Fellows-at-large attached to the Headquarters at Adyar, who are not in arrears of annual dues for more than one year at the close of the previous official year of the Society at Adyar.

If only one member is nominated the vote so taken shall be on a "For" or "Against" ballot.

At the expiration of six months from the call for nominations by the Recording Secretary, the results of the voting shall be counted by him. The Executive Committee shall appoint two of its members as scrutineers. The nominee receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected to the office of President.

If the voting results in the highest number of votes being given equally to two or more of the nominees, or if the voting upon the "For" or "Against" ballot results in the rejection of the one member receiving nomination, or if the death of any nominee occurs before the counting of the votes and the declaration of the result, the nomination and election procedure herein provided shall be repeated and the President then in office or the Vice-President, if he is temporarily filling such office, shall continue therein until a new President is elected.

11. (a) The President shall nominate the Vice-President, subject to confirmation by the General Council, and his term of Office shall continue till a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by the General Council. It shall be his duty, among other things, to carry on the executive functions of the President in case the President is dead or where the Executive Committee finds that he is disabled by accident, serious illness or otherwise from performing the duties of the President.

(b) Notwithstanding anything herein contained the Vice-President doing the duties of the President shall continue to be the Vice-President of The Society until a new Vice-President has been nominated and his nomination confirmed by



the General Council. In case of death, resignation or permanent disability of such Vice-President doing the duties of the President, the Executive Committee shall appoint a Vice-President who shall hold Office until the new President shall have nominated a new Vice-President and his nomination be confirmed by the General Council.

12. The President shall appoint the Treasurer, the Recording Secretary and such subordinate officials as he may find necessary, which appointments shall be reported to the Executive Committee at its next following meeting, and shall continue to be valid unless rejected by a majority of votes of the whole number of members in the Executive Committee, voting in person or by proxy, at the said meeting, the newly appointed Treasurer or Recording Secretary not being present, nor counting as a member of the Executive Committee for purposes of such vote.

13. The Treasurer, Recording Secretary and subordinate officials being assistants to the President in his capacity as executive officer of the General Council, the President shall have the authority to remove any appointee of his own to such offices.

14. The General Council shall at each Annual Meeting appoint an Executive Committee for the ensuing year, of not less than seven and not more than ten members, of whom at least six shall be members of the General Council. The President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, and the Recording Secretary shall be *ex-officio* members. Vacancies caused by death or resignation or otherwise may be filled by co-optation.

15. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once in every three months for the receipt and consideration of accounts and the despatch of any other business. A special meeting may be called by the President whenever he thinks fit,

and such meeting shall be called by him, or if not by him, by the Recording Secretary, when he is required to do so, by not less than three members of the Committee, who shall state to him in writing the business for which they wish the meeting to assemble.

16. At a meeting of the Executive Committee, three members shall constitute a quorum.

17. The Committee shall, in the absence of the President and Vice-President, elect a Chairman to preside over the meeting and in case of equality of votes the Chairman for the time being shall have a casting vote.

18. The President shall be the custodian of all the archives and records of The Society, and shall be the Executive Officer and shall conduct and direct the business of The Society in compliance with its rules ; he shall be empowered to make temporary appointments and to fill provisionally all vacancies that occur in the offices of The Society, and shall have discretionary powers in all matters not specifically provided for in these Rules.

19. All subscriptions, donations and other moneys payable to the Association shall be received by the President, or the Treasurer, or the Recording Secretary, the receipt of either of whom in writing shall be sufficient discharge for the same.

20. The securities and uninvested funds of The Society shall be deposited in the Imperial Bank of India, Madras, or such other Bank or Banks as the Executive Committee, T. S., shall select ; and in countries outside of India, in such Banks as the President shall select. Cheques drawn against the funds shall be signed by the President or the Treasurer or the Recording Secretary of The Society.

21. (a) Notwithstanding anything in these rules to the contrary the President may, touching the assets and affairs of The Society beyond India, at any time

and from time to time by a Power of Attorney appoint any persons to be the Attorneys of The Society for such period and subject to such conditions and for such purposes and with such authorities and powers as he may think fit, and he may if necessary affix the Seal of The Society thereto.

Without prejudice to the general powers conferred as aforesaid, the President may grant power and authority among others to sell, grant mortgage, lease or otherwise transfer the assets of The Society, movable or immovable, real or personal, and to receive subscriptions, donations, legacies, moneys and other property movable, or immovable, and to institute, continue, compromise, compound or refer to arbitration any actions, suits, or other proceedings, and to take and hold shares in any Company, and to vote at any meetings thereof, and to subdelegate all or any of his powers, and to give receipts and releases, and to sign, seal and deliver any instrument or document and have the same registered.

(b) The funds of The Society may be invested by the President, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, in Government or other Public securities, or in the purchase of immovable property or First Mortgages on such property.

(c) The Adyar Estate of The Society in Madras including The Society's original Headquarters and all other properties in Adyar since acquired by gift, purchase or otherwise, shall not at any time be disposed of by sale, gift, exchange, mortgage or otherwise; save that the President, if specially authorized by a resolution of the General Council, passed by a three-fourths vote of their members, voting in person, in writing or by proxy, may dispose of such outlying portions of the said Adyar Estate, as may be specified in such Resolutions.

(d) The President may, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, sell, mortgage or otherwise transfer any investment in Government or other Public securities, or any movable or immovable property of The Society other than those mentioned in Rule 21 (c).

22. (a) All deeds whereby immovable properties belonging to The Society are transferred or otherwise dealt with shall have affixed to them the Seal of The Society with the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

(b) All transfers of movable property, if in writing, shall bear the signature of the President and of the Recording Secretary but need not have affixed to them the Seal of The Society. In case of the absence of the President or where the Executive Committee finds that he is too ill to act, it may appoint two of its members to sign in place of the President.

*Note.*—The procedure detailed in this Rule is without prejudice to the powers conferred under Rule 21 (a).

23. The Society may sue and be sued in the name of the President.

24. The Recording Secretary may, with the authority of the President, or of the two substitutes appointed according to Rule 22, affix the Seal of The Society on all instruments requiring to be sealed, and all such instruments shall be signed by the President or by the two substitutes above mentioned and the Recording Secretary.

25. On the death or resignation of the President, the Recording Secretary shall at once make arrangements for the election of a new President, in accordance with Rule 10, and until such new

President is elected the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President.

#### HEADQUARTERS

26. Headquarters of The Society are established at Adyar, Madras, and are outside the jurisdiction of the Indian Section.

27. The President shall have full power and discretion to permit to any person the use of any portion or premises in the Adyar Estate for occupation and residence, on such terms as the President may lay down, or to refuse permission so to occupy or reside. Any person occupying or residing under the permission granted by the President shall, on a fortnight's notice given by or on behalf of the President, unconditionally quit the premises before the expiry of that period.

#### ORGANIZATION

28. Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian.

29. Admission to membership may be obtained through the President of a Lodge, the General Secretary of a National Society, or through the Recording Secretary ; and a Diploma of membership shall be issued to the Fellow, bearing the signature of the President, and countersigned by the General Secretary, where the applicant resides within the territory of a National Society, or countersigned by the Recording Secretary, if admission to membership has been obtained through the Recording Secretary.

30. Lodges and Fellows, whether unattached or attached to a Lodge, resid-

ing within the territory of a National Society, must belong to that National Society, unless coming under Rule 31.

Provided that with the sanction of the President a member who belongs to one National Society may while retaining his membership of that National Society belong to another National Society, but he shall not be allowed to cast more than one vote in matters relating to The Theosophical Society.

31. (a) When an individual Fellow in good standing, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such individual Fellow may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible. This shall equally apply in the case of the admission of any new member.

(b) A Fellow of The Theosophical Society in good standing who is desirous of leaving the National Society to which he or she belongs or ought to belong under Rule 30 and of joining another National Society, may be permitted by the President to do so provided such Fellow presents reason sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, and provided further that the application for transfer is submitted with the approval of the General Secretaries of both National Societies concerned.

This rule shall apply equally in the case of the admission of a new member.

(c) When a Lodge, for any serious and weighty reason, sufficient in the opinion of the President to justify such action, is desirous of leaving the National

Society to which it belongs, but is not desirous of leaving The Theosophical Society, such Lodge may become directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, severing all connection with the National Society. Such application must be made through the General Secretary of the National Society concerned who shall be under obligation duly to forward such application to the President as expeditiously as possible.

Before any Lodge shall have the right to apply to be directly attached to Headquarters, Adyar, it shall have mailed to each of its members individually a notice that such application is about to be considered. Such notice must be mailed not less than two weeks before the meeting at which such consideration is to take place, and voting on the application shall be deferred until two months after that meeting. If at such first meeting, or any succeeding meeting pursuant thereto, it is decided to bring the application to a vote as herein provided, a full report of the reasons for such action shall at once be sent to the General Secretary of the National Society concerned.

Any application for separation from the National Society to which a Lodge belongs shall be ineffective unless two-thirds of the members of the Lodge vote in favour thereof.

(d) In the event of any undue delay in the transmission of any application under any of the foregoing provisions of this Rule, a correct copy of such application (duly signed or otherwise authenticated) may be transmitted directly to the President by the Fellow or Lodge concerned, and the President may act on such copy if in his absolute discretion it appears to him to be fit or proper that he should so act. Any action so taken by the President shall be as valid and effectual, for all purposes,

as if it had been taken on the original application submitted for transmission to the President. The Fellow or Lodge, when forwarding such copy to the President directly, shall state the full grounds and reasons for the direct transmission.

32. Lodges or Fellows-at-large, in countries where no National Society exists, must apply for their Charters or Diplomas directly to the Recording Secretary, and may not, without the sanction of the President, belong to National Societies within the territorial limits of which they are not situated or resident.

33. Any seven Fellows may apply to be chartered as a Lodge. In a country where no National Society exists the application must be forwarded to the President of The Society through the Recording Secretary.

34. The President shall have authority to grant or refuse applications for charters, which, if issued, must bear his signature and that of the Recording Secretary, and the Seal of The Society, and be recorded at the Headquarters of The Society.

35. (a) A National Society may be formed by the President, upon the application of seven or more chartered Lodges.

(b) The President shall have authority at his discretion to issue (and to cancel) certificates of Federation to any national group of Lodges not sufficient in number or otherwise unable to form or to maintain a National Society, as defined in these Rules, or where in his judgment territorial division or other causes have made such Federation necessary or desirable. Any such Federation may elect an Organizing Secretary or other executive officer or officers for the purpose of further organization and the transaction of Federation business.

A Federation shall not appoint a General Secretary (as the term is used in these Rules) nor be represented on the General Council. In all other respects



the Rules applicable to National Societies and to General Secretaries shall apply to Federations and to their chief executives.

(c) The President shall have authority at his discretion to appoint and to withdraw appointments of Presidential Agents to act under his instructions for the purposes of conducting the business and administration of The Society in any place and in any respect not inconsistent with these Rules. Each such appointment and the power delegated to each such Agent shall be evidenced by a Letter of Appointment referring to this Rule.

36. All Charters of National Societies or Lodges and all Diplomas of membership derive their authority from the President, acting as Executive Officer of the General Council of The Society, and may be cancelled by the same authority.

37. Each Lodge and National Society shall have the power to make its own Rules which shall not be incompatible with the Rules of the National Society to which the Lodge belongs or with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

All Rules of Lodges and National Societies and amendments thereto shall be submitted for approval within thirty days of their adoption as follows : In the case of a Lodge belonging to a National Society, all such Rules and amendments shall be submitted to the General Secretary of that National Society ; in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not situated within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge directly attached to Adyar under Rule 31 (c) all such Rules or amendments thereto shall be submitted directly to the President.

All Rules and amendments shall be put into force if approval has not been refused within ninety days of acknowledgment of their receipt.

If by a change made in a Rule of The Theosophical Society, any Rule of

a National Society, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of The Theosophical Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the National Society shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of The Theosophical Society.

If by a change made in a Rule of a National Society, any Rule of a Lodge, which at its inception was not incompatible with the Rules of the National Society, ceases to be compatible, such a Rule of the Lodge shall cease to be valid and shall be amended so as to be in consonance with the Rules of the National Society.

38. Every National Society must appoint a General Secretary, who shall be the channel of official communication between the General Council and the National Society.

39. The General Secretary of each National Society shall forward to the President, annually, not later than the first day of November, a report of the year's work of his Society, and at any time furnish any further information the President or General Council may desire.

40. National Societies hitherto known as Sections, which have been incorporated under the name of "The . . . Section of The T. S." before the year 1908, may retain that name in their respective countries, in order not to interfere with the incorporation already existing, but shall be included under the name of National Societies, for all purposes in these Rules and Regulations.

#### FINANCE

41. (a) The fees payable to the General Treasury by Lodges not comprised within the limits of any National Society are as follows : for Charter,

£1 ; for each Diploma of Membership, 5s. ; for the Annual Subscription of each Fellow, 5s. ; but in the case of Lodges comprised within the jurisdiction of a National Society, the Annual Subscription of each Fellow shall be the amount prescribed for Annual Subscription by the by-laws or other regulations of the National Society within which the Lodge exists; or equivalents.

(b) New members joining otherwise than at the beginning of the year shall at the time of admission pay their annual subscription *pro rata* for the remaining period of the fiscal year at the rate of £0-1-3 per quarter.

42. Fellows-at-large, resident within the territory of a National Society under the Provision of Rule 31 (a) shall pay to the General Treasury as Entrance Fee and as Annual Subscription the amounts prescribed by the by-laws or other regulation of such National Society, but not less than 5/- and £1 respectively.

Fellows-at-large, not resident within the territory of a National Society, shall pay to the General Treasury an Entrance Fee of 5/- and an Annual Subscription of £1.

43. (a) Each National Society shall pay into the General Treasury ten per cent of the total amount received for its own National dues, and shall remit the same to the Treasurer at Adyar on or before the first day of September of the current year, and the financial year of The Society shall close on 30th September.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 41 (a) and Rule 42, the President at his discretion may authorize Presidential Agents to collect dues in territories to which they have been appointed and to remit in accordance with Rule 43 (a).

44. In the event of the cancellation of any Charter under Rule 36, or the dissolution of any National Society or of a Lodge, the constituent Charter of the National Society or of the Lodge, granted by the President, shall, *ipso facto*, become forfeited or lapsed, and all property, real or personal, including Charters, Diplomas, Seal, Records and other papers belonging to or in the custody of such National Society or Lodge shall vest as follows :

(a) in The Society, in the case of a National Society or of a Lodge not within the territory of a National Society or of a Lodge coming under Rule 31 (c), (except where the law of the country where the National Society or Lodge is situated prohibits such vesting, in which case the property shall vest as hereinafter provided)—and delivery shall be made to the President, or to his nominee on his behalf.

(b) in The National Society in which the Lodge is situated, in the case of a Lodge within the territory of a National Society, said Lodge not coming under Rule 31 (c), and delivery shall be made to the General Secretary of the said National Society.

No National Society or Lodge whose Charter shall have become forfeited or lapsed shall continue to use the name, motto, or seal of The Society except for the purpose of vesting in The Society or in the National Society as the case may be the real and personal property of such National Society or Lodge.

Provided, nevertheless, that the President shall have power to revive the Charter of the National Society or the Lodge, as the case may be, whose Charter shall have become so forfeited or lapsed, and to transfer the said Charter to other Lodges being not less than seven in number, or to other Fellows being not less

than seven in number, as the case may be, or to such other nominees of his as in his judgment shall seem best for the interests of The Society.

In cases under (a) above, where such vesting in The Society is prohibited by the law of the country in which is situated the National Society or the Lodge, whose Charter has become forfeited or lapsed as aforesaid, the property shall vest in a local Trustee or Trustees appointed by the President.

To effect any transfer of property, to which The Society may become entitled under this Rule, it shall be lawful for the President to appoint an agent or nominee for the purpose of executing any necessary document or documents, or for taking any steps necessary effectually to transfer the said property to The Society.

45. The financial accounts of The Society shall be audited annually by qualified Auditors who shall be appointed by the General Council at each Annual Meeting for the ensuing year.

#### MEETINGS

46. The Annual General Meeting or Convention of The Society shall be held in India in the month of December, at such place as shall be determined by the Executive Committee in June of each year. Lodges desirous of inviting the

Convention and able to make due arrangements for its accommodation, shall send the invitation in March of the current year, with particulars of the arrangements they propose to make.

47. At least once in every seven years a World Congress of The Theosophical Society may be held out of India, at a place and date to be fixed by the General Council, but so as not to interfere with the Annual Convention in India.

48. The President shall have the power to convene special meetings of The Society at his discretion.

#### REVISION

49. The General Council, of their own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee and after at least three months' notice has been given to each member of said Council, may, by a three-fourths vote of those members who vote in person, in writing, or by proxy, make, alter or repeal the Rules and Regulations of The Society, in such manner as it may deem expedient.

50. The General Council may frame by-laws not inconsistent with these Rules and Regulations and may add to, alter, or repeal such by-laws, consistently with the said Rules and Regulations, as it may deem expedient.

## DIRECTORY FOR 1955

### *Ex-Officio Members of General Council*

**President : MR. N. SRI RAM**

**Vice-President : MR. SIDNEY A. COOK**

**Recording Secretary : MISS EMMA HUNT**

**Treasurer : MR. H. B. F. MOORHEAD**

### General Secretaries and Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries

Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1886	United States ...	Mr. James S. Perkins	P. O. Box 270, Wheaton, Illinois
1888	England ...	Mr. C. R. Groves	50 Gloucester Place, London, W. 1
1891	India ...	Sri Rohit Mehta	Theosophical Society, Banaras 1
1895	Australia ...	Mr. J. L. Davidge	29 Bligh Street, Sydney, N.S.W.
1895	Sweden ...	Herr Elis Wikstrom	Ostermalmsgatan 12, Stockholm
1896	New Zealand ...	Mr. W. E. B. Dunningham	10 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland, S.E. 3
1897	Netherlands ...	Mr. B. Wouters	Amsteldijk 76, Amsterdam Z.
1899	France ...	Dr. Paul Thorin	4 Square Rapp, Paris VII
1902	Italy ...	Dr. Giuseppe Gasco	14-Piazza Gherbiana, Mondovi-Breo, Prov. Cuneo
1902	Germany ...	Direktor Martin Boyken	Rotbuchenstieg 40, (24a) Hamburg 39
1905	Cuba ...	Senor Juan Alfonso Sanchez...	P. O. Box 365, Habana
1907	Hungary ...	...	...
1907	Finland ...	Miss Signe Rosvall	Vironkatu 7C, Helsinki
1908	Russia ...	...	...
1909	Czechoslovakia* ...	...	...
1909	Southern Africa ...	Mr. I. G. Mitford-Barberton	P. O. Box 2284, Cape Town
1910	Scotland ...	Mr. Edward Gall	28 Great King Street, Edinburgh
1910	Switzerland ...	Madame Claire Wyss	Bruderholzstrasse 88, Basle
1911	Belgium ...	Mademoiselle Serge Brisly	37 Rue Jean-Baptiste Meunier, Bruxelles
1912	Indonesia ...	Mr. Soemardjo	Blavatskypark 5, Merdeka-Barat 17, Djakarta, Java
1912	Burma ...	U Po Lat	No. 102, 49th Street, Rangoon
1912	Austria ...	Herr F. Schleifer	Paracelsusgasse 4, T. 6, Vienna III/40
1913	Norway ...	Herr Erling Havrevold	Bjornstetv. 2b, Lilleaker, Oslo
1918	Egypt ...	...	...
1918	Denmark ...	Herr J. H. Moller	Strandvejen 130a, Aarhus
1919	Ireland ...	Mrs. Evelyn O. Hornidge	31 Pembroke Road, Dublin
1919	Mexico ...	Senor Adolfo de la Pena Gil	Iturbide 28, Mexico D. F.
1919	Canada ...	Lt. Col. E.L. Thomson, D.S.O.	52 Isabella Street, Toronto 5, Ont.
1920	Argentina ...	Senor Enrique O. Gossweiler...	Union No. 2581 (B. Alberdi) Rosario
1920	Chile ...	Senor Luis Tapia Alarcon	Casilla 604, Valparaiso
1920	Brazil ...	Tenente Armando Sales	Rua Sao Bento 38, 1º andar, Sao Paulo
1920	Bulgaria ...	...	...

\* Presidential Agency. Presidential Agents are not members of the General Council.



Date of Formation	Name of Section	General Secretary	Address
1921	Iceland	... Gretar Fells	... Ingolfsstr. 22, Reykjavik
1921	Spain	...	...
1921	Portugal	... Mr. Felix Bermudes	... Rua Passos Manuel, No. 20-cave, Lisbon
1922	Wales	... Miss E. Claudia Owen	... 10 Park Place, Cardiff
1923	Poland	...	...
1925	Uruguay	... Senor Mario Radaelli	... Palacio Diaz, 18 de Julio 1333, Montevideo
1925	Puerto Rico	... Senora Esperanza C. Hopgood	... Box 8774, Fernandez Juncos, Santurce
1925	Rumania	...	...
1925	Yugoslavia	...	...
1926	Ceylon	... Mr. N. K. Choksy, Q. C.	... Roshanara, 54 Turret Road, Colombo
1928	Greece	... Monsieur Kostis Melissaropoulos	... 3 Ethnikis Trapezis Square, Filothei, Athens
1929	Central America	... Senor Miguel Monge Echandi	... P. O. Box 797, San Jose, Costa Rica
1929	Paraguay	...	...
1929	Peru	... Senor Jorge Torres Ugarriza	... Apartado No. 2718, Lima
1933	Philippines	... Dr. Benito F. Reyes	... P. Florentino corner Iba Streets, Quezon City
1937	Colombia	... Senorita Corina Martinez Sanders	... Apartado Postal 539, Bogota
1947	East Africa	... Mr. Vallabhdas H. Kapadia	... P. O. Box 354, Zanzibar
1948	Pakistan *	... Mrs. Gool Minwalla	... Noonan Road, Karachi 3
1948	Malaya and Singapore *	... Mr. V. Rajagopal	... P. O. Box 752, Singapore
1949	Northern Ireland †	... Dr. Hugh Shearman	... 18 Brookhill Ave., Belfast
1950	State of Israel *	... Mr. Hans Zeuger	... Sheikh Badr Quarter, Jerusalem
1951	Japan *	...	...
1952	Viet-Nam	... Mr. Pham-Ngoc-Da	... Directeur de l'Ecole des Filles, Chaudoc
1953	Venezuela	... Senor Pablo Bonilla T.	... Apartado 2907, Caracas

### Additional Members of the General Council

MR. R. M. ALPAIWALLA, 179, Lamington Cross Road, Bombay 7 (for 1953, 1954 and 1955).

MR. J. E. VAN DISSEL, Dirk Boutsloaan 18, Eindhoven, Holland (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

DR. G. SRINIVASA MURTI, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1953, 1954 and 1955).

MR. H. S. L. POLAK, 49 Earls Ave., The Leas, Folkestone, England (for 1953, 1954 and 1955).

DR. HUGH SHEARMAN, 36 Cliftonville Road, Belfast, United Kingdom (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

SRIMATI RUKMINI DEVI ARUNDALE, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1955, 1956 and 1957).

MISS ANN KERR, Assistant Recording Secretary, The Theosophical Society, Adyar, Madras 20 (for 1954, 1955 and 1956).

\* Presidential Agency } Presidential Agents and Organizing Secretaries are not members of the  
 † Federation } General Council.

## MINUTES

*Of Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society,  
held at "Shanti Kunj," Indian Section Headquarters, Banaras, on  
Saturday, 25th December, 1954, at 8.30 a.m.*

### PRESENT :

- Mr. N. Sri Ram .. *President (in the chair).  
Proxy for the General Secretary of the  
Theosophical Society in England, General  
Secretary of the Theosophical Society  
in Finland and for Mr. J. E. van Dissel,  
Additional Member.*
- Mr. H. B. F. Moorhead .. *Treasurer.*
- Mr. Rohit Mehta .. *General Secretary, the Theosophical Society  
in India and Proxy for the General Secre-  
tary of the Theosophical Society in Burma  
and General Secretary of the Theosophical  
Society in East Africa.*
- Miss Ann Kerr .. *Additional Member, and Proxy for the  
General Secretary of the Theosophical  
Society in Puerto Rico.*

The meeting was adjourned to 2 p.m., 28th December, at "Shanti Kunj".

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## MINUTES

*Of Adjourned Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical  
Society held at "Shanti Kunj," Indian Section Headquarters,  
Banaras, on Tuesday, 28th December, 1954, at 2.00 p.m.*

### PRESENT :

- Mr. N. Sri Ram .. *President (in the chair).  
Proxy for the General Secretary of the  
Theosophical Society in England, General  
Secretary of the Theosophical Society in  
Finland and for Mr. J. E. van Dissel,  
Additional Member.*

Miss Emma Hunt

.. *Recording Secretary, Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in New Zealand and General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Ceylon.*

Mr. H. B. F. Moorhead

.. *Treasurer.*

Mr. Rohit Mehta

.. *General Secretary, the Theosophical Society in India, Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Burma and General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in East Africa.*

Miss Ann Kerr

.. *Additional Member and Proxy for the General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Puerto Rico.*

1. *Confirmation of Minutes.*—The Minutes of the meetings of 25th and 31st December, 1953 and 1st January, 1954, having been circulated to the members of the General Council, were taken as read and were adopted and signed.

2. *Matters arising out of the Minutes :*

(a) *Amendment to Rule 10 of the Rules and Regulations of the Theosophical Society.*—The President stated that the committee appointed by the General Council on December 31st, 1953 had been unable to meet. One member of the Committee had submitted the suggestion that an Electoral College be created on the basis of one member for every one hundred members of the Society. This college of approximately 300 members would elect the International President. But this suggestion had not been considered by the Committee.

The General Council decided to give the Committee an extension of one year. During the year the Committee will meet at Adyar.

(b) *The Theosophical Society in France.*—The President stated that in April 1954 Prof. E. Selleger was appointed by him, with the consent of the General Secretary and the Council of the French Section, as Presidential Delegate to meet all the groups in France and report.

Prof. Selleger's Report was received by the President some weeks ago, and he now placed it before the General Council meeting. In his Report Prof. Selleger states that there are several groups concerned.

Prof. Selleger suggests that a Committee should be appointed consisting of five members :

Two representing the Council of the French Section.

Two representing the dissatisfied members.

One appointed by those who have seceded from the French Section and applied for affiliation to Adyar.

This Committee of five to consider amending the constitution of the French Section in a manner generally satisfactory to all.

The President explained that Mr. Francis Brunel had had to resign as General Secretary because of his work in the UNESCO, and Dr. Paul Thorin was at present the interim General Secretary. In April 1955 there would be an election to fill the office of General Secretary.

The President intimated that it was not for him to appoint the suggested Committee but he would ask Dr. Thorin to consider Prof. Selleger's proposal. The question which was to be decided by himself as President was :

Should the request for affiliation received from the members who have seceded from the Section be granted now ? Mr. Brunel and the French Section Council have so far objected to such affiliation. But affiliation could be granted temporarily for one or two years on condition that these members do not obstruct the work of the French Section or carry on any propaganda against it. They are willing to give this assurance. The President asked : " Is it morally right for me to deny to a group of earnest members the link with Adyar which they ask for in the difficult situation which has come to exist as a result of five years' controversies ? After all the affiliation would be temporary and could cease if the proposed Committee is convened and evolves proposals acceptable to all."

The President stated that he would express these views to Dr. Thorin so that there might be no misunderstanding of his (the President's) attitude in this matter. The temporary affiliation would not mean that the President takes any side in matters concerning the constitution of the Section or falling within the sphere of the Section's responsibility.

The President said he would also ask Dr. Thorin to receive the report from Prof. Selleger and be good enough to send it to the members of the French Section.

The General Council agreed with the views of the President.

3. *To consider proposals received from Mr. J. L. Davidge, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Australia, regarding amendments to Rule 28 of the Rules and Regulations of The Theosophical Society and providing an additional Rule 37 (a).*—Mr. J. L. Davidge, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Australia, has proposed the following amendments and additions to the International Rules.

(1) *New Rule 37 (a) :*

" Notwithstanding the provisions of Clause 37, a National Society may apply to the Executive Committee for permission to dispense with the provisions of Clause 28 so far as they require the consent of a parent or guardian for the admission to membership of a person under the age of majority. The Executive Committee shall have power to grant such permission but only if satisfactory evidence is produced to it of the opinion of a competent lawyer in the country concerned that the Society could not be subject to any legal proceedings in respect to the admission of such a member."

(2) *Rule 28.* The following to be inserted in Clause 28, between the words " but " and " those " in the fifth line of that clause :

" Except where exemption has been granted under Clause 37 (a) " Clause 28 would thus be amended as follows :

*Present Rule :*

" Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but those



under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian."

*Proposed Amendment : (additions shown in italics)*

"Every person of ten full years of age, without distinction of race, creed, sex, caste or colour, shall be eligible for membership in The Society, but, *except where exemption has been granted under Clause 37 (a)*, those under the age of majority in their respective countries shall be admitted to membership only with the written consent of parent or guardian."

*Reasons :* [Given by Mr. J. L. Davidge]. At last Convention [Australian Section Convention 1953], a resolution was passed requesting the Section Council to find a means of allowing persons under 21 years of age to join the Society without their parents' consent, if necessary by submitting an amendment to the International Rules.

The Section Council has ascertained from International Headquarters that the intention of the General Council in framing the present rule was to protect the various Sections from any legal difficulties in accepting minors. The Section Council has also obtained competent legal opinion that in Australia parents would have no legal action against the Society in accepting their children as members without their consent. The Section Council feels it needs a more precise resolution from Convention before submitting an amendment to the International Rules. The present resolution therefore reaffirms the resolution passed at last Convention in more definite form.

The present International Rule is too rigid because in affording protection to countries where there may be a legal barrier to the acceptance of minors as members without parental consent it unnecessarily binds countries like Australia where no such barrier exists. The amended rule still affords the protection where it is necessary.

The proposed amendment was circulated to the members of the General Council. There was some support for a move on the proposed lines but there were also strong objections to any alteration of the present rule.

Mr. Sidney Cook, Vice-President, gave his opinion as follows : "I think there is error in the assumption that the present form of the rule was based principally upon the question of possible legal responsibility arising from the admission of minors. There was a more important consideration, *viz.*, that the Society should not make itself a cause for family disruption by admitting a minor to membership contrary to the wishes of the responsible parental guardian."

Mr. Edward Gall, General Secretary of the Theosophical Society in Scotland, stated that the general feeling of his National Council was "that the admission of persons legally under age against the wishes of parents or guardians was, in principle, an undesirable thing, and would be liable to arouse bad feeling in various ways, and that, in such cases, it was preferable to delay the admission of such a person until he (or she) became legally of age."

Mr. Hugh Shearman, Organizing Secretary for Northern Ireland, expressed the feeling that "if a young person under the age of majority wishes to join the Society, and

his parent or guardian does not wish him to do so, he ought to respect the wish of parent or guardian until he attains his majority ; and I feel that the Society ought not to encourage him to adopt any other course, no matter what the law may be in any country."

In view of the opinions quoted above, which had the support also of several other members of the General Council, it was considered inadvisable to proceed with the proposed amendment.

4. *Election of One (1) Additional Member of the General Council for the years 1955, 1956, and 1957.*—Srimati Rukmini Devi, having received 43 votes, was declared elected as an Additional Member to the General Council for the years 1955, 1956 and 1957.

The President explained that Mr. N. K. Choksy, an Additional Member of the General Council, having been elected General Secretary of the Ceylon Section, there is a vacancy on the General Council. He proposed that Mr. Geoffrey Hodson be nominated. The Council agreed to this nomination, which will be circulated in due course among the members of the General Council.

5. *Treasurer's Report for 1953-54.*—The audited financial statements of the Society for the official year ended 30th September, 1954, presented by the Hon. Treasurer with his report and recommended by the Executive Committee for adoption, were given consideration and approved.

6. *The Budget for 1954-55.*—The Budget estimates for the year ending 30th September, 1955, passed by the Executive Committee at a meeting held on December 20th, 1954, were adopted as detailed :

## THE T.S. HEADQUARTERS, ADYAR, BUDGET FOR 1954-55

EXPENSE	Budget for 1953-'54	Actuals for 1953-'54	Budget for 1954-'55	INCOME	Budget for 1953-'54	Actuals for 1953-'54	Budget for 1954-'55
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Establishment—Salaries and Wages ...	32,000	29,905	31,000	Rent ...	54,000	53,465	53,000
Repairs and Renewals ...	30,000	30,000	30,000	Fees and Dues ...	28,600	25,611	24,000
Garden Expenses ...	42,550	41,349	43,340	Conservancy Charges ...	1,300	1,637	1,400
Miscellaneous ...	7,000	6,780	7,000	Garden Income ...	33,050	28,991	33,350
Light and Water ...	5,000	4,464	4,500	Casuarina ...	10,000	1,721	2,000
Postages, Telegrams and Telephone ...	4,000	2,736	3,000	Administration Charges ...	7,130	7,130	7,130
Printing and Stationery ...	4,500	3,875	4,000	Interest (Gross) ...	34,000	41,607	38,000
Publications to General Secretaries ...	800	669	800	<b>Special Departments:</b>			
Sanitation Expenses ...	4,800	4,718	4,900	Engineering De- partment ...	94,750	1,09,231	1,06,900
Taxes ...	14,000	14,257	14,500	Vasanta Press ...	1,23,000	1,31,341	1,18,800
Interest on Funds and Accounts ...	8,000	7,760	9,000	Laundry ...	6,000	5,354	5,500
Convention ...	2,000	5,611	2,000	Donations to cover deficit ...	39,970	48,914	50,660
Watch and Ward ...	13,250	11,729	13,000				
<b>Contributions:</b>							
Adyar Library ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Dispensary ...	3,500	3,898	3,500				
President's Travelling Fund ...	6,600	6,600	6,600				
Museum and Archives ..	500	215	500				
The School of the Wisdom ...	5,000	5,000	5,000				
Donations to various Funds and Accounts ...	...	...	...				
Bhojanasala ...	650	1,081	1,000				
Leadbeater Chambers ...	2,500	1,618	2,000				
Depreciation ...	17,500	17,787	17,500				
<b>Special Departments:</b>							
Engineering Department.	94,750	1,11,223	1,06,900				
Vasanta Press ...	1,23,000	1,48,795	1,18,800				
Laundry ...	6,900	6,789	6,900				
Surplus ...		3,143					
	4,33,800	4,75,002	4,40,740		4,33,800	4,75,002	4,40,740

For The Theosophical Society,  
H. B. F. MOORHEAD,  
Hony. Treasurer.

7. *The Appointment of Auditors for 1954-55.*—It was resolved that Messrs. V. Soundararajan & Co., Registered Accountants, be re-appointed Auditors for the year 1954-55 on a remuneration of Rs. 1,300 per annum, the terms and conditions remaining the same as in previous years.

8. *Appointment of the Executive Committee for 1955.*—The following members were appointed :

President	}	<i>Ex-officio</i>
Vice-President		
Recording Secretary		
Treasurer		
Miss Ann Kerr		
Srimati Rukmini Devi		
Dr. G. Srinivasa Murti		
Mr. S. G. Venkataramanan		
Mr. K. S. Rajagopalan		

9. *Any other Business :*

(a) *Alternative Policy for the Theosophical Society.*—The General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Southern Africa, Mr. I.G. Mitford-Barberton, had requested that the “Alternative Policy of the Theosophical Society” by Mr. T. Redfern (England), published in *Eirenicon* No. 112 (Autumn Equinox) and reprinted in *The Canadian Theosophist* of May 15, 1954, concerning the line to be taken by members of the Society with regard to a number of matters on which in the past there had been strong differences of opinion, be put on the agenda for consideration by the General Council. The President brought the article to the attention of the Council. The Council did not think there was any need to start a movement for the purposes indicated. In the Society there is freedom for every Lodge and every member, and apart from the three Objects of the Society, no one was required to accept or reject anything. The decision of the Council was that this was a matter in which the President could give a lead, if he thinks he should do so.

(b) *Statement on the inside cover of the Theosophist.*—Mr. J. L. Davidge, General Secretary for the Theosophical Society in Australia, on behalf of his Section Council, requested a revision of the statement on the inside cover of *The Theosophist* as follows :

Formerly the statement read :

“The Theosophical Society was formed at New York, November 17, 1875, and incorporated in Madras, April 3, 1905. It is an absolutely unsectarian body of seekers after truth, striving to serve humanity on spiritual lines, and therefore endeavouring to check materialism and revive the religious tendency. Its three declared Objects are : . . . ”

Mr. Sri Ram, when he became Editor, changed this to read :

“The Theosophical Society was formed at New York, November 17, 1875, and incorporated at Madras, April 3, 1905. Its three declared Objects are : . . . ”

Mr. Davidge on behalf of his Council has requested that the former wording be re-inserted.



It was decided that this was a matter for the President as Editor of *The Theosophist* to decide and did not concern the General Council.

(c) The President proposed that the Subba Row Medal be given to Mr. Geoffrey Hodson for his contributions to Theosophical literature.

The Council approved this proposal.

(d) *Suggestion of Mr. Shearman regarding dues to Adyar.*—Mr. Shearman had suggested that the question might be considered as to whether a fixed per capita charge for membership payable by the Sections to Adyar would be more equitable than the present rule which allocates to Adyar 10 per cent of membership dues received by the Sections.

The question was submitted to the Treasurer and the Vice-President, Mr. Sidney Cook, among others, and it was the opinion of all of them that the present rule should continue.

The Council decided not to proceed further with the question.

EMMA HUNT,  
Recording Secretary

# SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1954

National Sections (Active) ..	41
Presidential Agencies (Active) ..	3
Federations formed under Rule 35 (b) ..	1
<i>Note: During the year the Ceylon Presidential Agency was converted into a National Section.</i>	
Total Lodges (1954) ..	1,364
Total Membership :	
1953 ..	32,450
1954 ..	32,566
Increase ..	116

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
25. Ireland ..	4	48
26. Mexico ..	25	503
27. Canada ..	11	354
28. Argentina ..	67	1,584
29. Chile ..	10	145
30. Brazil ..	29	643
31. Bulgaria ..	—	—
32. Iceland ..	8	305
33. Spain ..	—	—
34. Portugal ..	10	251
35. Wales ..	7	188
36. Poland ..	—	—
37. Uruguay ..	7	94
38. Puerto Rico ..	8	103
39. Rumania ..	—	—
40. Yugoslavia ..	—	—
41. Ceylon ..	9	209
42. Greece ..	7	225
43. Central America ..	10	153
44. Paraguay ..	—	—
45. Peru ..	8	117
46. Philippines ..	13	220
47. Colombia ..	14	201
48. East Africa ..	13	325
49. Pakistan * ..	6	312 (1953)
50. Malaya & Singapore* ..	4	107 (1952)
51. Northern Ireland † ..	3	71
52. Viet-Nam ..	7	308
53. State of Israel* ..	2	19 (1953)
54. Japan ..	—	2 (1953)
55. Venezuela ..	8	87
56. Canadian Federation ..	9	240
57. Libertad Lodge (Argentina) ..	1	20
58. Fellows at large ..	—	7
59. Lodges and members attached to Adyar ..	15	201
	3	282 (1953)
Total ..	1,364	32,566

	No. of Lodges	No. of Members
1. United States of America ..	145	4,078
2. England ..	116	3,231
3. India ..	405	6,376
4. Australia ..	16	1,197
5. Sweden ..	21	432
6. New Zealand ..	18	915
7. Netherlands ..	37	1,634
8. France ..	67	1,457
9. Italy ..	33	1,045
10. Germany ..	21	440
11. Cuba ..	33	621 (1953)
12. Hungary ..	—	—
13. Finland ..	22	716
14. Czechoslovakia ..	—	—
15. Southern Africa ..	13	640
16. Scotland ..	19	286
17. Switzerland ..	11	264
18. Belgium ..	11	333
19. Indonesia ..	18	703
20. Burma ..	7	71
21. Austria ..	13	303
22. Norway ..	7	159
23. Egypt ..	—	—
24. Denmark ..	13	341

EMMA HUNT,  
Recording Secretary.

\* Presidential Agency.  
† Federation.

# SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 1954

1954		1953		1952		1951		1950		1949		1948		1947		1946		1945		1944		1943		1942		1941		1940		1939		1938		1937		1936		1935		1934		1933		1932		1931		1930		1929		1928		1927		1926		1925		1924		1923		1922		1921		1920		1919		1918		1917		1916		1915		1914		1913		1912		1911		1910		1909		1908		1907		1906		1905		1904		1903		1902		1901		1900		1899		1898		1897		1896		1895		1894		1893		1892		1891		1890		1889		1888		1887		1886		1885		1884		1883		1882		1881		1880		1879		1878		1877		1876		1875		1874		1873		1872		1871		1870		1869		1868		1867		1866		1865		1864		1863		1862		1861		1860		1859		1858		1857		1856		1855		1854		1853		1852		1851		1850		1849		1848		1847		1846		1845		1844		1843		1842		1841		1840		1839		1838		1837		1836		1835		1834		1833		1832		1831		1830		1829		1828		1827		1826		1825		1824		1823		1822		1821		1820		1819		1818		1817		1816		1815		1814		1813		1812		1811		1810		1809		1808		1807		1806		1805		1804		1803		1802		1801		1800		1799		1798		1797		1796		1795		1794		1793		1792		1791		1790		1789		1788		1787		1786		1785		1784		1783		1782		1781		1780		1779		1778		1777		1776		1775		1774		1773		1772		1771		1770		1769		1768		1767		1766		1765		1764		1763		1762		1761		1760		1759		1758		1757		1756		1755		1754		1753		1752		1751		1750		1749		1748		1747		1746		1745		1744		1743		1742		1741		1740		1739		1738		1737		1736		1735		1734		1733		1732		1731		1730		1729		1728		1727		1726		1725		1724		1723		1722		1721		1720		1719		1718		1717		1716		1715		1714		1713		1712		1711		1710		1709		1708		1707		1706		1705		1704		1703		1702		1701		1700		1699		1698		1697		1696		1695		1694		1693		1692		1691		1690		1689		1688		1687		1686		1685		1684		1683		1682		1681		1680		1679		1678		1677		1676		1675		1674		1673		1672		1671		1670		1669		1668		1667		1666		1665		1664		1663		1662		1661		1660		1659		1658		1657		1656		1655		1654		1653		1652		1651		1650		1649		1648		1647		1646		1645		1644		1643		1642		1641		1640		1639		1638		1637		1636		1635		1634		1633		1632		1631		1630		1629		1628		1627		1626		1625		1624		1623		1622		1621		1620		1619		1618		1617		1616		1615		1614		1613		1612		1611		1610		1609		1608		1607		1606		1605		1604		1603		1602		1601		1600		1599		1598		1597		1596		1595		1594		1593		1592		1591		1590		1589		1588		1587		1586		1585		1584		1583		1582		1581		1580		1579		1578		1577		1576		1575		1574		1573		1572		1571		1570		1569		1568		1567		1566		1565		1564		1563		1562		1561		1560		1559		1558		1557		1556		1555		1554		1553		1552		1551		1550		1549		1548		1547		1546		1545		1544		1543		1542		1541		1540		1539		1538		1537		1536		1535		1534		1533		1532		1531		1530		1529		1528		1527		1526		1525		1524		1523		1522		1521		1520		1519		1518		1517		1516		1515		1514		1513		1512		1511		1510		1509		1508		1507		1506		1505		1504		1503		1502		1501		1500		1499	
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